



# THE NOE VALLEY VOICE

## Breast Cancer Stamp a Best Seller in Noe Valley

By Suzanne Herel

The breast cancer stamp, which funds medical research, costs 7 cents more than a regular 33-cent stamp. But that hasn't stopped local residents from snapping them up at the Noe Valley Post Office.

In February, the 24th Street branch sold more of the stamps—12,404—than any other post office in San Francisco, raising about \$900 to help fight the disease.

Noe Valley has also helped make the Bay Area a top competitor in the race for a cure around the country. The San Francisco postal district—stretching from Eureka to Sunnyvale—is second only to Sacramento in cumulative nationwide sales since the stamp's debut in July 1998.

"This wasn't through huge sales. This was through one-, two-, and three-sheet sales," said Yvonne, a window clerk at the

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This vista can be yours in less than a half-hour's hike from the top of 24th Street. Check out our guide to "Twin Peaks in 20 Minutes...on Foot!" starting on page 11 of this issue.

Photo by Charles Kennord

## 1906: AN EYEWITNESS ACCOUNT OF THE GREAT QUAKE

Drawn from the Pages of the  
*Twin Peaks Sentinel*

By Melinda Breitmeyer

In 1931, the *Twin Peaks Sentinel*, a crisp little community newspaper not unlike the *Voice*, ran a serial telling what it was like to survive the 1906 earthquake in Noe Valley. The four-part story, which commemorated the disaster's 25th anniversary, was written by Frances Gibson, who in 1906 was 19 years old.

After the quake struck, Gibson grabbed her camera, hit the streets, and made like a reporter, as the following excerpts from her piece in the *Sentinel* show. (Several dozen yellowed copies of the newspaper, which was one of many weeklies published in San Francisco in the '30s and '40s, are housed at the Noe Valley Library.) Let's hope the *Voice* staff would do the same.

But in 1906, Noe Valley was not the crowded urban village it is today. There were quite a few vacant lots scattered about. In addition to stores on 24th Street, there were produce markets, bakeries, and butchers on almost every block, usually on the bottom floor of corner Victorians. Many of the roads were unpaved. Sidewalks were slatted boards. An automobile was a rare sight, and horses clip-clopped up and down the hills between Noe and Eureka valleys.



The four-story Valencia Street Hotel, near 19th, collapsed shortly after the quake, killing an untold number inside. (Fire swept through, before the wreckage could be cleared.) But in Noe Valley most buildings remained standing.

Photo courtesy San Francisco Public Library

The view up to Twin Peaks was of bare slopes dotted with cows instead of apartment buildings. Beyond Twin Peaks, an almost uninterrupted expanse of sand dunes stretched to Ocean Beach. Noe Valley was the edge of the frontier, and one of the places where streams of refugees halted to make new homes during the long summer of 1906.

It was the fire, rather than the quake, that did the most damage. Thus, survivors refer to the disaster as the Great Fire, not the Great Quake. Certainly the four-day conflagration ranks as one of the worst in our nation's history. At the fire's height, the view toward downtown from Twin Peaks was one of a hellish inferno, red flames lighting up the night sky through billows of black smoke.

As the fire raced through the city, people in the streets shouted information that was often inaccurate or exaggerated.

There was no TV or radio to tune in to for the latest developments.

Our fearless *Sentinel* reporter, Frances Gibson, lived at 70 Clipper St., between Church and Dolores, with several of her six siblings and her parents, who were immigrants from Ireland. The family had never been instructed to get under a doorway, but in those somewhat simpler times, they knew how to clasp hands when an earthquake hit, and that is what they did in the early morning hours of that fateful spring day in "ought-six."

Wednesday, April 18, 1906

RUMBLE, RUMBLE! BUMP, BING, BANG!

I jumped up from my sleep, rubbed my eyes, and yelled, "What the ---- was that?" Crackety, crack! went the walls,

*Continued on Page 17*

## Seniors Get the Green Light at Dolores and 30th

By Karen Topakian

Ever since Ovidia Cruz was killed in 1989 while crossing the street at 30th and Dolores, Jorge Santis has tried to get a traffic signal put in at the intersection.

By the end of April, Santis and the seniors attending the program he runs at 225 30th St. should have their wish. A building contractor was set to begin work on installing the stoplight in late March.

What will require about a month of construction—the project is scheduled to be finished April 30—has taken close to a decade of lobbying.

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**A Flash at Dawn.** The donuts are fresh, and the sun is just rising as a cyclist blurs in for some fuel. No need to lock the bike at this hour.

*Photo by Nojib Joe Hokim*



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## LETTERS 33¢

### A Grateful Child of the '60s

Editor:

I have just read Janis Cooke Newman's piece entitled "City Song," on The Last Page of the March *Noe Valley Voice*.

I grew up in the suburbs of Marin. When I was a child in the '60s, San Francisco was a magical place of forbidden exploration and untold adventure. We sought the city out any way we could. I remember wandering around the Panhandle with my parents during the Summer of Love. These moments defined and informed who I was to become.

Now I live in the Sunset District overlooking the baseball diamonds of Golden Gate Park. Each day I revel in my decision to live in our beautiful town.

I enjoy the diversity, the tolerance of the people, the striking architecture, the liberal, labor-oriented politics. I think this is a great place to raise a child. No, you can't protect kids from all the evils of the world. But what you can do, as Ms. Cooke Newman has done, is inculcate in your child a knowledge that people are different: some good, some bad. This way, we raise a generation who will act rather than react, and think rather than be told what to think.

I thank Ms. Cooke Newman for an excellent, thought-provoking article!

Martin Ganapoler  
Via e-mail

### Singing the Same "City Song"

Editor:

I so enjoyed reading Janis Cooke Newman's essay, "City Song," in the March issue. I found myself laughing out loud and nodding in wholehearted agreement as I read. As a mother raising two children in Noe Valley, I related to many of the issues she so poignantly discussed. Thank you for a thoroughly entertaining back page.

Rebecca Ezelle  
Fair Oaks Street

### Welcome, Alex

Editor:

Please tell Janis Cooke Newman, writer of "City Song," to quit worrying about all the quirky, outrageous, "in your face" antics, people, products, and events that 4-year-old Alex will see, be confused by, comment on, and wonder about.

His life and outlook will be enriched, broadened, and ennobled. His visions and acceptance of diversity will be the future payoff for an enlightened and progressive human being.

Welcome, Alex, to San Francisco.

Marge Harburg  
Winfield Street

### Crying Babies Can Be Annoying

Editor:

I just read with dismay the letter by Sophia Woo in the March issue, complaining about a restaurant patron's "discrimination" against her crying baby.

As the mother of three children, the youngest of whom is 7 years old, I am appalled at Ms. Woo's notion that we must all tolerate and be sensitive to the needs of a crying baby in a restaurant. In the interest of those who go out to lunch to enjoy a quiet, relaxing interlude with good food and the conversation of friends, I would like to suggest that common courtesy requires her to take her baby outside.

No one — especially the parents of other young children who take a break from their parenting responsibilities to go out once in a while — appreciates the sound of babies crying. But some parents insist on subjecting others to the noise and disruption of their babies in movies, at the ballet, at the symphony, at restaurants, and even at student dance, piano, and dra-

matic performances given by dedicated young musicians and performers. Instead of removing their babies and toddlers when they become noisy, these self-absorbed adults persist in allowing their youngsters to ruin the moment for the rest of us.

Ms. Woo, you need to learn where and when it is not appropriate to bring your baby. The infant and toddler years fly by quickly, and in no time at all, with good direction and encouragement from you, your child will learn to behave in public without disturbing other people.

In the meantime, have the decency to attend to your baby in such a way that the rest of us can dine out without listening to your baby screaming in the background. It is not a question of discrimination against your baby, but rather frustration with your lack of good manners and lack of consideration for the rest of the community that prompted the gentleman in Barney's to complain, and he had every right to do so.

Bari S. Ness  
Noe Valley resident

### Fuming About Smoking in Bars

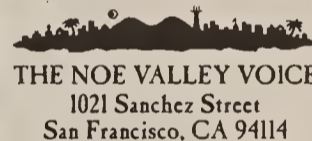
Editor:

Certain "butt-heads" are continuing to pollute the bars by spreading smoke in the eyes of nonsmokers and making it hazardous to breathe.

There has also been a breakdown of law and order, since despite the fact that smoking in bars is illegal, the police and politicians have refused to enforce the ban. The major newspapers have also been accessories to the crime, by failing to expose this situation in the media.

The longer the mayor and board of su-

*Continued on Page 6*



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# Noe Valley Leads Fight Against Breast Cancer

*Continued from Page 1*

24th Street branch who preferred not to give her last name.

Noe Valley's February sales ranking is up from January, when it placed fourth in the San Francisco district. In December it ranked third.

Yvonne credits the neighborhood's "generosity of spirit" with keeping the Noe Valley branch in the city's top five sellers on a monthly basis. "You can't push a breast cancer stamp," she said. "People ask for them."

Yvonne was so pleased one day recently when two separate male customers in their 20s requested the stamp that she asked the second buyer why he chose them. "He said, 'Because I have a mother and sisters.' That's all," she recalled.

Another man had told her he supported the stamp because his ex-wife, wife, and mother all suffered from the disease. "People with cancer in their family are quick to buy," she said.

"It's been a very popular stamp in California, particularly Northern California," said Horace Hinshaw, a spokesman for the San Francisco Post Office. "Cancer affects a lot of people's lives. People are hearing the message."

It's not unusual for the U.S. Postal Service to issue stamps to raise awareness of health and social issues such as drug abuse, AIDS, and wildlife protection. But this stamp—referred to as "semipostal" in government lingo—is the first to sell for higher than the postage, so that the excess can be donated to a worthy cause.

The stamps cost 40 cents each. The extra 7 cents (8 cents before the recent rate

increase) goes directly to breast cancer research. Seventy percent of the proceeds are donated to the National Institutes of Health, and 30 percent to medical research programs under the Department of Defense (DOD).

DOD's Breast Cancer Research Program, launched in 1992, funds hundreds of medical research grants. The program is designed to supplement the work of the National Cancer Institute by focusing on new treatment approaches and the needs of patients who are deemed underserved.

So far, more than 67 million stamps have been sold nationwide, raising \$5.3 million for breast cancer research. Nearly 13 million of those sales have come from California. Ranked first, second, and third as of March 5 were Sacramento (2.8 million stamps), San Francisco (2.7 million), and Oakland (1.8 million).

After Noe Valley, the next highest sellers in the San Francisco district in February were Sutter Street, which sold 10,694 stamps; San Rafael, 7,427; the Irving Retail Store, 7,280; and Mill Valley, 6,615. The district as a whole sold 293,303.

After third-ranked Oakland, the highest-selling cities nationwide are Seattle (1.74 million); New York City (1.73 million); Washington, D.C. (1.72 million); Denver (1.56); Atlanta (1.5 million); San Diego (1.44 million); and Van Nuys, California (1.42 million).

Yvonne said some customers had told her they preferred donating money directly to organizations. "They don't think of the stamp as a symbol, which it is," she said. Still, many find the stamp a more convenient way to contribute.

The stamp features a line drawing of a woman swept with blue, green, red, and



orange, and the slogan "Fund the fight. Find a cure." It was designed by Ethel Kessler of Bethesda, Maryland—herself a breast cancer survivor—and illustrated by Whitney Sherman of Baltimore.

The breast cancer stamp will be on sale through July 2000. □

## New Stoplight at Dolores and 30th

*Continued from Page 1*

"The accident occurred in June of 1989," said Santis, program coordinator for 30th Street Senior Services, which serves about 300 seniors daily. "Ovidia, who was a senior but not frail, was hit by a motorist while walking in the crosswalk on 30th Street. She died later at the hospital."

Over the 14 years he's worked at the center, Santis has noticed many "near-misses" at the intersection, currently a four-way stop. "One gentleman in particular was hit badly," he said.

After Cruz's death, Santis and the seniors contacted their elected officials, sent letters, held rallies, and petitioned the Department of Parking and Traffic. They also joined forces with the Pedestrian Safety Task Force of the Senior Action Network, to prove to the city that a four-way stop was inadequate.

The seniors based their request on several factors: Many drivers ignore the stop signs, barely pausing to tap their brakes. The vehicle traffic in the area has increased substantially, especially on Dolores Street, now used as a shortcut to 280 South or as an alternative to the old Central Freeway. Also, the J-Church and the 24 and 26 Muni lines converge on 30th Street, which means there are a lot of people either waiting or running for the bus.

Santis and other staff also pointed out that the median age of the people who

participate in programs at the senior center is 80, and many walk with canes or walkers and have visual or hearing impairments.

Nevertheless, their pleas fell on deaf ears at City Hall. "We tried several channels, including petitions to Mayor Art Agnos starting back in 1990," recalled Santis. "Politicians would come to see us at election time, promising everything." But still no stoplight.

Then, in January of 1997, Supervisor Mabel Teng introduced a resolution urging the Department of Parking and Traffic (DPT) to change the traffic controls at Dolores and 30th streets. DPT endorsed the plan that month and recommended a new signal for fiscal year 1997-1998. They originally gave a completion date of early 1998, but later revised it to 1999.

According to Angelo Kalaveras, project manager at Millard Tong Construction, his firm will finish the underground road work by the first week of April, and then come back to install the signal and activate it at the end of the month. Both jobs are likely to disrupt traffic on Dolores and 30th streets, so be prepared to go slow, he said.

Noe Valley won't see any fancy turn signals, just a regular green-yellow-red stoplight, with pedestrian walk and don't-walk signs.

Meanwhile, Santis will continue to offer training at the center on how to read traffic signals and stay safe when crossing the street. He noted that the seniors often performed a play called "How the Angels Got There," about the dire consequences of failing to watch out for cars.

He and the 30th Street seniors are looking forward to a victory celebration. "We are planning a to-do at the traffic light with punch and cookies for people crossing the street, and for drivers. We'll invite all the seniors and the politicians."

The group will also say a few words in memory of Ovidia Cruz. □

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## LETTERS 33¢

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pervisors allow the pollution, the more they will alienate the massive non-smoker community. Bar owners should realize that nonsmokers spend money too, and if some patron gets infected by a smoking-related disease, the bars could face a serious lawsuit. If the smokers do not like the law, they should convince the lawmakers to change it.

R. Sunday  
Clipper Street

## Save Our Garage Sales

Editor:

Please join the Ad Hoc Committee Defending Free Speech in San Francisco at an April 6 hearing before the Board of Supervisors Housing and Social Policy Committee (10 a.m., Room 263, City Hall). I will be there, along with others, to protest a proposed ban on the taping and stapling of signs on street poles.

The sign ordinance, introduced by Supervisor Barbara Kaufman, stipulates that citizens should use string or twine instead. This is extremely impractical, and will seriously inhibit residents from posting garage sale, lost pet, concert, or other community signs and fliers.

I've asked the supervisors to consider two points:

1. They should allow the use of staples and tape on wooden posts, concrete, and painted steel poles. Contrary to what you might have heard, taped signs do not harm these types of poles. The real problem is that the signs are left up too long, and the weather eventually "seals" the tape. This leads to my second suggestion.

2. They should limit the length of time a sign can be posted (how long it stays up after the event). It would be reasonable to set a three-day limit. A fine should be imposed on any persons not adhering to that schedule. Enforcement of this rule would ensure that tape would not stick permanently to the pole, and that signs would not proliferate. (The ordinance would address this issue by requiring a date, name, and telephone number.)

These practical and commonsense measures will control the posting of signs and at the same time protect community communication through the streets. Freedom of speech should not be infringed upon in the name of sanitized signposts.

Garage sales are a San Francisco way of life! Tens of thousands of us enjoy them for social, recycling, and economic reasons. What if there were no more garage sales?

Come down to City Hall, or phone the supervisors and let them know what you think. The members of the Housing Committee are Alicia Becerril, 554-6488; Sue Bierman, 554-6661; and Mabel Teng, 554-4981. If you'd like to reach the Free Speech Committee, call 289-6575.

Kevin Black  
Native San Franciscan

## 'Friend of Parrots' Needs a Perch

Editor:

The parrot movie is in full production, but I have a problem: My "star" has to move out of his cabin on the side of Telegraph Hill in early June, and I need to find a place for him to stay while we finish the movie! You've read about Mark Bittner in the *Voice* [November 1998] and in the *Chronicle*. You've also seen him on TV or heard him on NPR. This story is getting a tremendous amount of press. But the fact remains, we need your help.

After Mark feeds the birds for the last time and moves out, we will film various North Beach "flashback" scenes and the two parrot flocks — the cherry-headed conures and the yellow-wing canaries —

in their haunts throughout the city.

If you know of a place where Mark Bittner, the "Friend of the Flock," could stay for several months, such as a house-sit or caretaker situation, please contact him at 989-5909 or me at 824-5822. Thanks for supporting Mark and *The Wild Parrots of San Francisco*.

Judy Irving  
Producer, IDG Films  
Elizabeth Street

## Tips on Street Safety

Editor:

"It's hard to know what I could have done differently..." That is what one of the women who was robbed on 24th Street a couple of months ago told the *Voice* ["Two Women Robbed at Gunpoint," February 1999].

I go to Mexico City during the summer, where I teach English with the Salvation Army. Although a lot of my friends there have been robbed, I am glad to say that I have never been assaulted, either here or in Mexico. Maybe it has something to do with growing up poor in the city. Or maybe people think I look mean (!).

One thing I do know is how not to stand out in a crowd while walking down 24th or Mission Street. I never carry a purse. If I go to dinner with another gal pal, I always wear my unassuming everyday jacket, and I walk with caution.

I say caution, because you have to be aware of everything around you, and pay attention at all times. I will assume that the "robber" probably had his eye on the two women on 24th Street. A person who is going to rob you will try to make sure that no one is close by.

Another good habit for pedestrians to get into is to not carry much cash. Also, avoid wearing flashy jewelry. The only thing I wear all the time is my watch. (My watch was a gift from a sister. It was only about \$20, and I have had it for 10 years now.) You might wonder where I put my money. Well, I made a little knit bag to conceal inside my clothing, usually inside my bra.

Hope this helps.

Juanita "Jane" Landero  
Naples Street

P.S. Regarding the Just for Fun debate: If a student behaves in the store, there should be no problem, but when the student decides to go against the "rules of the store," they should be removed from the store and banned in the future. I remember when I was a kid growing up in San Francisco, some of the kids were real stinkers. They used to get kicked out of stores because they shoplifted or made a mess. I think all students have the obligation to treat others with respect, and if you can't respect the store, you should not be in there. It is really that simple.

## Voice Mail

THE VOICE welcomes letters to the editor. Write the *Noe Valley Voice*, 1021 Sanchez St., San Francisco, CA 94114. Or send e-mail to [jaxvoice@aol.com](mailto:jaxvoice@aol.com). Please include your name, address, and phone number. (Anonymous letters will not be considered for publication.) You can also communicate with us via our web site:

[www.noevalleyvoice.com](http://www.noevalleyvoice.com).

The site has current stories and Class Ads, and archives of past issues dating from December 1996.

# Let BYLINES Be BYLINES

## Compost Yourself

Don't Try to Worm Out of This One

By Mary J. Karraker

Several months ago I visited one of my daughters, who lives in the Northern California town of Arcata. She has a nice house and yard. As we strolled around the yard, she revealed that she had started composting, "like Dad did."

You can imagine my horror when I went to look at the compost pile and found hotdog buns, bones, and corn husks lying in the pile. They had been untouched by the process, so I grabbed a shovel and began throwing the offending victuals from the enclosure.

Then I took it upon myself to turn, feed, and water the pile. There were not too many worms, but far too many sow bugs... a bad sign. After giving my daughter explicit instructions, I left her to the task.



Earlier in this century, I was married to Dave, a disciple of the visionary Euell Gibbons, who, when he wasn't *Stalking the Blue-Eyed Scallop* (or the wild asparagus), was often featured in the periodical *Organic Gardening*. Euell felt that after all that stalking, you could live off the land and take good care of it at the same time.

When Dave, who worked for the National Park Service, was transferred to Washington State (Port Angeles), we jumped into gardening in a big way. We lived on an acre and a half of fertile loam, third-growth timber, and banana slugs. In the wild areas of our hillside property grew blueberries, red huckleberries, salmon berries, and thimble berries. The garden held strawberries and raspberries galore. We tried growing all kinds of vegetables, from potatoes to Dave's beloved Brussels sprouts. Due to the cool wet weather, not all of our projects flourished. But we sorted that out and lived well from the fruits (and vegetables) of our toil.

After the rainfall, the next greatest hazards were our two chipmunk-cheeked daughters, who with an over-riding affinity for mud liked to help. Try as I might, I couldn't convince them that the gentle, horizontal movement of garden tools was preferable to the vertical chop. I had never seen a child's garden rake as the staff of the Grim Reaper, but there you are.

With such a large garden and lawn, we had tons of waste plant material. As

## A Recipe for Composting

Courtesy of Mary J. Karraker

✦ Dig a shallow hole, 1 to 2 feet deep and 3 to 4 feet wide. (Or buy one of those Darth Vader-like plastic composters from your local hardware store.)

✦ Remove pieces of sod, rocks, and twigs from the soil you have dug up.

✦ Put leaves, grass clippings, organic kitchen waste, coffee grounds, and tea bags into the hole. For your health's sake, don't add dog or cat droppings or kitty litter.

✦ Sprinkle a thin layer of dirt over the pile, and water it lightly. Continue to layer each time you add scraps. Water if needed. The pile should be kept moist, but not so damp that mold grows. Always end up with a layer of dirt on top.

✦ In about three weeks, dig into the edges of the pile and turn it over on itself. Now take great pride in discovering what has sprouted from your previous remains.



Euell advised, composting was the answer.

After a rainstorm, the compost would get soaked and heavy, making it difficult to turn. During the winter it was like stirring cold oatmeal. Just when we had the hang of it and things seemed to be "cooking," we were transferred to the suburbs of Washington, D.C.

On the East Coast, the weather was hot and humid, and the compost flourished. We added a chubby-cheeked boy to our gardening-by-mayhem crew, and continued to cultivate with gusto. We had two gardens and numerous flower beds, so there was fuel for the compost pile, which eventually became three piles. As with eating peanuts, we just couldn't stop.



People often have the wrong idea about composting. If the pile is properly cared for, it decomposes all types of plant materials, including paper. It also provides excellent garden soil. And, contrary to popular belief, it doesn't smell.

As for earthworms, you should think of your compost pile as a condo for night crawlers and red wigglers. (They can make turning the pile with a shovel a little gruesome, but a digging fork minimizes the damage.) Worms are the composter's greatest little helpers. As they help break down the vegetation, they aerate the soil and leave behind fertilizer-rich castings.



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# POLICE BEAT

## Suspects at Large in Two Muggings

By Officer Lois Perillo

The robbery count in my part of Noe Valley dipped to two in February, down from four in January. The number logged for all of Mission Station—which covers the Mission and the Castro, as well as the northern half of Noe Valley—was 23.

It's clear that Noe Valley is among the safest neighborhoods in the city. Still, the two robberies that happened in February were disturbing in that they involved physical assaults.

On Monday, Feb. 1, at 8:10 a.m., a 26-year-old man exiting a Muni bus at 24th and Douglass was beaten and robbed by four males who had followed him off the bus. The first of the four (who all appeared to be in their late teens) asked the man, "Do you know me?" When the man said no, the suspect grabbed him around the neck and punched him in the face until he fell to the ground. The other three thieves then kicked him and stole money and a cell phone from his pockets. The four suspects then fled east on 24th Street.

Officers Sandy Ganster and Stephanie White responded to the call and searched the area in their patrol car, accompanied by the man who'd been robbed. However, they were unable to locate the suspects.

The second robbery occurred Tuesday, Feb. 16, at 9:55 p.m. A 40-year-old man, walking on 20th Street toward Douglass, noticed a 1995 or older silver Ford Taurus station wagon speed past him, then park on Seward near Douglass. Three men, 18 to 21 years old, then jumped out and ran over to him. The tallest suspect (6'1", 160 lbs.) pointed a silver revolver and demanded the man's wallet, while the other two (5'6" or so) surrounded him.

After the man gave up his wallet, the tall suspect shoved him and struck him in the head, causing a laceration. The muggers then ran back to the Taurus and fled north on Douglass toward Market. An independent witness confirmed the vehicle's description, and also noted that the station wagon's right brake light was out.

Now, all we need to do is nab them.

### 'Jim' the Solicitor Busted

The con man and suspected burglar known as "Jim," whom I told you about in the last two *Voices*, was arrested on March 14 at 4:15 p.m., after a resident of the 800 block of Guerrero called police. Officers Alex Medina and Ray Lee responded and found "Jim," whose real name is Joseph C. Lawrence, in the middle of a second con on Liberty Street.

After an investigation, the officers learned that the Guerrero Street resident had been scammed by Lawrence a month earlier. So, when the resident saw Lawrence talking to a neighbor on his block, he decided to tip off police. It turned out that the neighbor had been about to write Lawrence a check for "my daughter's athletic team," but became suspicious and closed the door when Lawrence was unable to offer a receipt.

Lawrence then walked to Liberty Street, where he approached a woman and told her he was an ex-police officer. The woman was on the verge of giving the impostor a donation when the police arrived and took him into custody.

Lawrence was booked on a charge of obtaining money under false pretenses, and Inspector Mark Sullivan of the Burglary Detail was notified. Although Lawrence was sent to County Jail, he was released and cited to appear in court.

Thus, he may attempt to solicit money under false pretenses again. If he shows up at your door, call Police Dispatch at 553-0123, and then me at 558-5404.

### Double Robber Sentenced

A man implicated in two robberies (in October 1997 and February 1998) pled guilty to second-degree robbery on March 11. He was sentenced to one year of a court-approved live-in treatment program and four years of felony probation. This was in addition to the 13 months he'd spent in County Jail awaiting the case's final disposition.

As reported in previous *Voice* editions, the October '97 case occurred at a laundromat near 22nd and Fair Oaks, and the February '98 case happened near 24th and Vicksburg.

### A Heck of a Misunderstanding

A disagreement between two men in the 24th Street public parking lot next to Rite Aid led to a scuffle on Thursday, Feb. 18, at about 6 p.m. The men, in their 40s, cursed at and assaulted each other, and one vandalized the other's car by "keying" it.

*Continued on Next Page*

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# POLICE BEAT

*Continued from Previous Page*

The incident began when one man was waiting in the handicapped parking space for a legal spot to open and another man whose vehicle displayed a disabled parking permit entered the lot. The first man waved the second man through, with the intent of pulling out of the handicapped space. The second man misinterpreted the gesture, so he blocked the first man's car and refused to move. When the first man objected, the second man scraped his key across his car, causing a scratch in the paint. The first man reacted by knocking down the second man.

Responding officers Victor Silveira and Ray Salvador made a police report, but both men declined to press charges.

## What Was She Thinking? Part 2

The 45-year-old Noe Street resident who was arrested last August for vandalizing a local bar, punching bar patrons, and assaulting a police officer, failed to make her February court appearance. The judge issued a \$10,000 warrant for her arrest.

On March 12, the defendant's attorney asked the judge to rescind the warrant. However, because the defendant was not present during the motion, the judge refused. The \$10,000 warrant stands.

## My Case Is Closed

State law provides that all victims of violence have an opportunity to address the court before the defendant is sentenced, and on Jan. 29 I exercised my right.

I stood before Alameda County Superior Court Judge Dean Beaupre to recommend a sentence for the woman who assaulted me in Oakland last June 10. (I described the incident, in which a Vallejo woman kicked me and then drove her car into me and my partner's dog, Kishi, in the July/August 1998 *Voice*.)

Next to me was Deputy District Attorney Kevin Dunleavy, and a few feet to my right was the defendant, Avis Richard.

I began speaking, and by my second sentence, the defendant had moved as far away from me as possible. Nevertheless, the judge's eyes remained firmly on me for my entire two-minute address. In the course of almost 15 years of testifying, I have never experienced such rapt attention from the bench.

After I finished, Judge Beaupre expressed concern that the D.A.'s office had

not kept me apprised of the case, for it appeared to him that I was unaware of the deal that had been struck: Richard was to receive five years' probation. Upon hearing my statement, the judge wanted to ponder the matter further. "I would like to take a week to come up with a sentence I can live with," he said.

I felt as if a weight had been lifted from my shoulders. By making my statement, I had taken back my power. The judge's thoughtful response was an extra bonus.

Two weeks later, my partner Heather and I returned to court for the sentencing. So did the defendant, who pled guilty to a felony count of assault with a deadly weapon. The judge then sentenced her to 30 days in the Sheriff's Work Alternative Program (SWAP), with credit for the nine days she'd served in jail in July. The judge added 12 anger management sessions and five years' felony probation, to be reduced to a misdemeanor and terminated if Richard's behavior produced "perfect" probation reports.

At that point, Richard asked to do her SWAP time and anger management sessions with a man who had accompanied her to the court, Mr. McFall, a representative of the Fisher Foundation. (I later found out that the Fisher Foundation runs a drug treatment program in Oakland.)

The judge told her, "I don't believe the sheriff will go for that. Be prepared to be cleaning the streets and washing police cars." He then said he would let the Oakland Probation Department handle the issue, and the court session was over. (The probation officer later assured me that Richard would not be directing her own programs.)

Meanwhile, I sent in Kishi's veterinary bills and the cost of my sick time to Oakland Probation for restitution. (I don't expect to see a dime from Richard.) I am also attempting to recover something from the City of San Francisco, specifically the time I used to heal from this assault.

The city attorney is reviewing my case, and I am hopeful that my lost sick time will be restored. After all, I am sworn to serve and protect, and I need to know that when I take action to protect others or myself, my city will support me if I'm hurt. As a police officer, I know that nothing is worse than not getting backup. Nothing.

Here's to Dike, Greek goddess of divine justice. May she smile upon us.

Until next month, be safe and I'll see you on patrol. □

*San Francisco Police Officer Lois Perillo covers her Noe Valley beat—from Valencia to Grand View and 21st to Cesar Chavez—on foot and on bicycle. If you would like to discuss a problem, call her at 558-5404, the community policing line at Mission Station.*

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*From Noe Valley to the Stars*

## Twin Peaks in 20 Minutes... On Foot!

*By Jim Christie*

It's true. You can walk up to Twin Peaks from Grand View Avenue and 24th Street in just 20 minutes. Actually, you can complete the ascent in less time than that, but who's racing?

Last summer I climbed several of Noe Valley's hills (September 1998 *Voice*), but failed to attempt the "grand-maiden" of them all: Twin Peaks. (The Peaks' original Spanish name is *Los Pechos de la Choca*, which translates as "breasts of the Indian maiden.")

Now I'm not saying that Twin Peaks is part of Noe Valley, despite our "manifest destiny" of incorporating all of our surrounding neighborhoods. No, my omission of the Peaks wasn't a matter of their location, nor even of my own fatigue. I simply didn't know that the second and third highest summits in the city could be reached so quickly and with such ease from Noe Valley. Okay, relative ease.

I also should admit that I'm no trail-blazing reporter: In 1980 an intrepid *Voice* staffer named Frank Ahern made the climb and survived to write about it in the paper's May 1980 issue. The bread crumbs he sprinkled to mark the trail disappeared soon after his trek, but luckily I found Ahern's old article and decided to discover for myself what 19 years' passage had done to his route.

I was afraid I might find the stairways gone, blocked, or posted "Private," or perhaps the bases of the peaks themselves would be encircled by fences.

Well, good news. If anything, it's easier to make the hike today than it was back then. Just head west up 23rd, Elizabeth, or 24th Street to Grand View, and get started.

From Grand View, go over or under Market Street to Corbett. (See sidebar for more specific directions.) Take a right on Corbett and then a left on Hopkins, which goes up to Burnett. Take the stairs from Burnett up to Greenside and then more stairs up to Parkridge. Turn right toward Crestline, and you're there! Almost. Turn left on Crestline and then take the dirt trail up to the road that circles the two peaks.

Here's an excerpt from Ahern's 1980 description of that point in the hike: "Crossing the last piece of man-made pavement, you approach the raw hillside with a deep sense of kinship with the earth. You grasp the sun-hot red rock and start to clamber up the steep slope. Loose stones clatter down in a mini-landslide as your feet grope for a sure footing, sometimes slipping to pitch you forward on your hands. But you adapt quickly and, like a goat, carefully negotiate a safe path upward."

Don't worry, it's not quite like that anymore. At least not the clambering, slipping, mountain-goat part. These days there are nice railroad-tie stairs leading you to the top.

Frankly, the journey from Grand View to Parkridge Drive is pleasant enough, but it pales in comparison to the panoramic views you'll be rewarded with on top of Twin Peaks. The various streets and stairways ascending to your destination take you through quiet residential areas of small homes and big apartment buildings, and you'll have plenty of opportunities along the way to rest and admire the downtown skyline and the East Bay views.

*Continued on Next Page*



A spiral ramp off Grand View between Elizabeth and 23rd streets takes you to a skybridge over busy Market Street. Scale a couple more stairways, and you're at the foot of the Peaks.

*Photo by Charles Kennard*

### *Walking to Twin Peaks from Grand View*

Ready to go to the mountaintop? Here are your directions to Twin Peaks, field-tested in March 1999:

☞ Go to the top of 24th Street, where it dead-ends at Grand View Avenue. At Grand View, look to the left. Next to a large green apartment building you'll see a stairway going underneath Market Street. Follow that to the juncture of Cuesta, Portola, and Corbett.

☞ Turn right on Corbett Avenue and walk 300 yards to Hopkins Avenue.

*Note:* An alternate route—if you don't mind crossing a pedestrian bridge over Market Street—is to take the spiral ramp and overpass at Elizabeth and Grand View, which will take you to Corbett and Hopkins.

☞ Turn left on Hopkins and walk up to Burnett Avenue. Directly across Burnett, you'll see a stairway beneath some pine trees. (A note about all of the stairways: They often look as if they dead-end. They don't. You just can't see that they take a turn and continue upward.)

☞ Follow the Burnett stairs up to Gardenside Drive. (You can also turn left on Burnett and find another stairway about 50 yards away, which also ascends to Gardenside.)

☞ At Gardenside, look across the street to the left. You'll see a dirt trail angling up to an apartment complex parking area, and also a stairway farther down to the left. Take either route.

☞ If you take the dirt trail, turn left at the top to find the next stairway up to Parkridge Drive. If you take the stairway route, you'll be led directly to the next stairway. This last stairway will lead you up to Parkridge.

☞ At the top, look to your right. You'll see Crestline Drive and the top of Sutro Tower jutting above the hill. Turn left on Crestline and you'll find the dirt trail leading up to the Peaks.

Have fun, and don't forget to bring a jacket—it's windy up there. —J.C.



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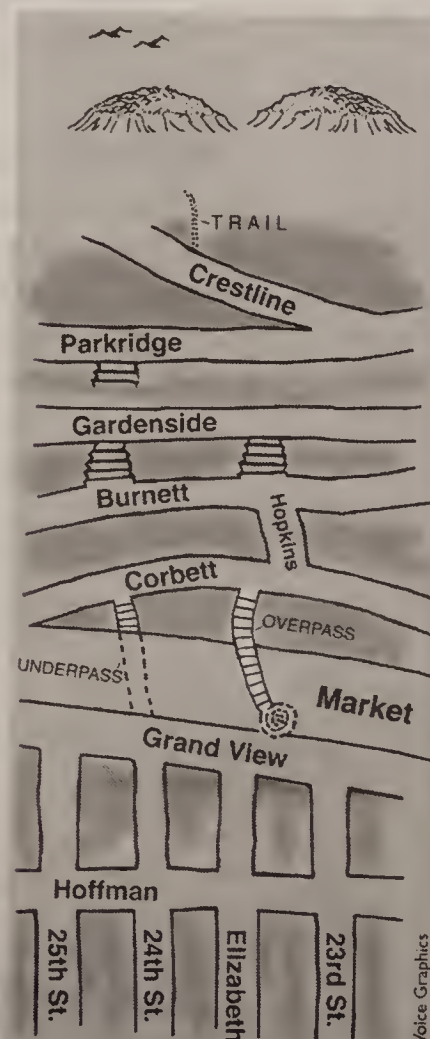
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Hikers who reach Twin Peaks' south summit will have attained a height of 910 feet, the second highest elevation in San Francisco (after Mount Davidson). The north peak is slightly lower at 904 feet, but it's still satisfying to tourists.

Photo by Charles Kennard

## A Brisk Hike to Twin Peaks

*Continued from Previous Page*

When you reach Parkridge, there's a lush median strip bursting with agapanthus, brilliant wild mustard, feathery pampas grass, and yes, pines that whisper. Over to the right is Crestline Drive, where you'll see the thick, low-lying shrubbery that covers the Peaks. Perhaps you'll notice some "yerba buena" (literally, "good herb"), the wild mint plant for which Yerba Buena village was named before it became San Francisco.

One thing's for certain: you'll enjoy an abundance of bird life swooping overhead and fluttering and chirping from within the surrounding thickets. Of course, you've come here for more than the fauna and flora, so pick a Peak and head on up to the top.

The south peak is the second highest summit in San Francisco, at 910 feet, while the north peak is third at 904 feet.



Walkers to Twin Peaks will hear birds hiding in thickets of plants and flowers, such as this native ceanothus. Photo by Charles Kennard

Mount Davidson, about a mile to the southwest, marks the city's highest elevation at 925 feet. Across a small valley to the north stands Sutro Tower, the region's radio and microwave transmitter. Whether you think it's interesting or insidious, you can't miss it.

You'll also have a hawk's-eye view of nearly all of San Francisco's neighborhoods as well as the tourists gathered at the semicircular lookout point below the northern peak.

Gaze out to sea for epic views of the Farallone Islands and to the right for the Golden Gate Bridge and ships a-sail around Angel Island and Alcatraz. Look east for the Bay Bridge, U.C. Berkeley's Campanile Tower, and Mount Diablo, or simply admire a couple Noe Valley landmarks like St. Paul's Church and James Lick Middle School.

All of this spectacular scenery might render you speechless, or perhaps you're just tired from the climb. No worries—just congratulate yourself for making it to the top, and remember: it's all downhill from here. □

*In an upcoming issue, Voice staffer Jim Christie will be doing a story on places in Noe Valley to relax or meditate. These could range from the Noe Valley Library's outdoor patio to the inside of St. Paul's Church. Please mail your suggestions to the Voice at 1021 Sanchez St., San Francisco, CA 94114, or e-mail Jim at untourist@aol.com.*

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Holiday Petit Fours  
Colomba Pasquale • Dinner Rolls  
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Hazelnut Torte  
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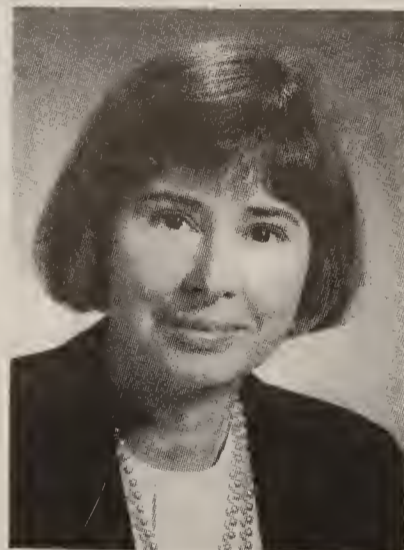
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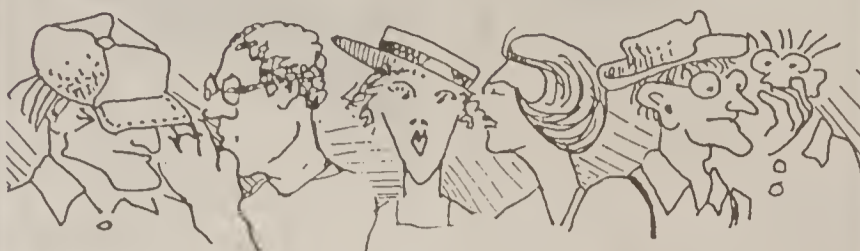
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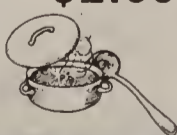
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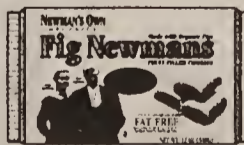


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# Eyewitness Tells How Noe Valley Survived

Continued from Page 1

and the ceiling bowed as the walls bent and almost touched each other with the force of the shock.

Ma was sitting on the edge of her bed in a half faint, praying, "God, save us all." I looked at the clock. It had stopped at 13 minutes past 5 a.m.

My father and brothers rushed into our bedroom and grabbed us, pulling us into the other room. Standing together pale and with drawn faces, we all took hands and clasped together.

We awaited the end as the house rocked to and fro. It seemed an eternity until the shock was over. Then Tom broke the silence: "That sure was a corker!"

We all with one accord rushed to the window. I opened it, and horrible noises, indescribable, reached our ears. From every door and window, ghostly faces were peering; neighbors were running wild in their nightgowns.

The family got busy and put on their clothes. Sis went downstairs to make a pot of coffee to revive Ma. "Have the grace of God about you all. It is no joking matter," she warned us.

As luck would have it, the well was OK and the pump was still working, so the kettle was filled. When the kettle was put on the stove, the stove refused to work and smoked like fury, but we forced it along long enough to boil the water and fix up a breakfast.

Gas mains had broken all over the city during the quake. Escaping gas was one of the primary causes of fire, especially from people trying to cook on stoves.

Running water had only recently come to Noe Valley. Mains had been installed around 1900, and these broke along with the gas mains, forcing people to fall back on disused wells. An underground creek ran under Clipper Street, supplying the Gibsons and their neighbors' wells.

Tom and 'Lisbeth started out for work. They had only gotten a short distance from the house when they learned there was no car service. The streets had been plowed up and cracked all over town. Rails had been twisted out of shape.

Worst of all, people were rushing around like mad, yelling, "The town's on fire! The big buildings are down, and everybody is killed!"

Actually, surprisingly few civic buildings fell down during the quake. There was one notable exception: the newly built City Hall. Its shoddy construction was later connected to graft, which toppled the careers of several city officials. In Noe Valley, there was little major damage. Many chimneys fell, and some houses lost their Victorian gingerbread, but no one was killed here during the quake.

On the morning of the shaker, 52 fires were recorded, and there were probably many more unreported blazes. Broken water mains made life rough for the firefighters, many of whom were volunteers.

"No car service" to and from Noe Valley meant that the cable car lines on Castro and the trains on nearby Valencia Street were not running. Both lines had their rails twisted like pipe cleaners by the quake.

I had a few films left in my camera, so I loaded up and started going. I got as far as 22nd and Mission, and there, Lippman Bros. Dry Goods Store and the old Soms residence were burning to the ground for lack of water.

Along Valencia Street from 21st to



In the days and weeks following the 1906 quake, Noe Valley residents were regular visitors at a food supply station at James Lick School, then a small schoolhouse on Noe Street. The bread line shown here extends from the school. The shacks in the street are outdoor kitchens. Note the plank sidewalks, the horse grazing in the back yard across Noe, and the roofs bereft of chimneys. Photo courtesy Henry J. Mombach Collection

17th, there was a hole big enough to bury at least 50 people, not to mention horses. The old Valencia Street Hotel, where I had played sliding over the banister, was lying flat on the ground and all the people in it had lost their lives, was the report.

Valencia Street was an old creekbed, which had been filled in and then built on. The severe jolts of the quake caused the soft-packed fill to settle suddenly, leaving gaping holes in the street. The buildings on top of the fill reeled with the force of this settling, and houses for several blocks leaped off their foundations. The

sides. Dogs and cats, scorched and bleeding, were jumping off wagons and running wild.

Downtown, they said, the flames were stopping at nothing, eating up all, and people were being "roasted alive." All you saw or heard, no matter which way you looked was Fire, Fire, Fire!

South of Market was filled with ramshackle houses, built in the 1850s and '60s by early settlers who abandoned them when the cable cars opened up more desirable locations. The area had since deteriorated into a slum. The shoddily

built structures collapsed during the quake, crushing or trapping scores of residents. Along the Embarcadero, shipping warehouses built on landfill also collapsed. These two areas became tinderboxes, and when numerous blazes broke out from gas leaks, the flames soon raged out of control. The Great Fire had begun.

There were indeed cases of people "roasted alive" in collapsed buildings. The ones who escaped, many with just a few sentimental possessions or pets — whatever they could carry — streamed out

Continued on Next Page

## PROCLAMATION BY THE MAYOR

The Federal Troops, the members of the Regular Police Force, and all Special Police Officers have been authorized to KILL any and all persons found engaged in looting or in the commission of any other crime.

I have directed all the Gas and Electric Lighting Companies not to turn on Gas or Electricity until I order them to do so; you may therefore expect the city to remain in darkness for an indefinite time. I request all citizens to remain at home from darkness until daylight of every night until order is restored.

I Warn all citizens of the danger of fire from damaged or destroyed chimneys, broken or leaking gas pipes or fixtures or any like cause.

E. E. SCHMITZ, Mayor.  
Dated, April 18, 1906.

four-story Valencia Hotel collapsed like a tower of cards. Its top floor landed intact in the middle of the street with the bottom three floors flattened underneath, crushing at least 15 people.

This scene found its way into the 1936 movie *San Francisco*. As Clark Gable searches desperately through the city's rubble for Jeannette MacDonald, he comes upon the collapsed hotel. A policeman tells him, "Those on the top floor stepped right out their windows to the street. The others were out of luck."

The crowd of people, autos, wagons, and vehicles of all kinds, all coming in one direction, made the way impassable. Everybody was heading for Noe Valley and the hills. Chinamen with sacks of clothes, women and girls carrying bird cages, hat boxes, pictures, and other useless articles. The men and boys followed, pulling along trunks, kids' express wagons, and baby buggies, all loaded heavily. Mothers clasping babies to their breast, fathers trying to quiet crying children as they toddled bravely on at their

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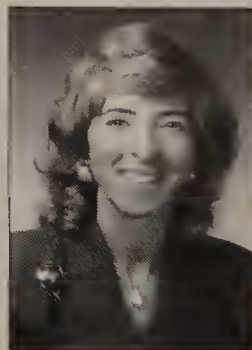
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## The Great Quake And Fire of 1906

*Continued from Previous Page*

to the unthreatened areas of the city, some fleeing across the Bay on ferries. North and westward they went, to the Presidio, Golden Gate Park, even the beaches.

Thousands came to Noe Valley, some climbing Twin Peaks to watch their homes burn.

*Ashes were coming down thicker and thicker. Bank notes and burned pages from municipal records were crunching underfoot. The air grew hotter and hotter, and suffocating. The wild yells, the clang of the ambulances as they rushed to the emergency, the wounded and dead piled in heavy wagons, reminded one of Dante's Inferno, but Dante had nothing on this hell.*

*Then came the proclamation from Mayor Schmitz, nailed on telegraph poles, electric poles, and every available space.*

Mayor Eugene Schmitz had declared martial law. Army troops from the Presidio policed the city, "authorized to KILL" looters. (Executions of looters did occur.) The soldiers also cordoned off the fire, keeping people away at bayonet point, and helped fight the flames, care for the injured, and bury the dead. In Noe Valley they enforced the curfew and distributed tents to refugees, who camped out wherever they could.

**Thursday, April 19, 1906**

*The news came that as soon as the fire reached 20th Street, Noe Valley was to be dynamited. Charles Powers and his brothers got busy with their teams [of horses] and took all our belongings, free of charge, one load after another, up to the hill at 29th and Noe, where we all camped. My sister sat on the curbstone and cried as we left the "auld hoose."*

*I was sore. I had watched the fire from its start, but Pa ordered me to the hills with the rest. The old Captain in him said, "I sink with the ship." He wouldn't allow me to take Beaut, my Newfoundland dog.*

*The parrot's cage door was opened to give Polly a chance for her life. Polly was 21 years old. Darby, the canary, we took with us.*

Many Noe Valley residents left their homes on Thursday, as the fire approached. On Wednesday night, as fire consumed much of downtown and, hungry for more, moved outward, another fire took hold in Hayes Valley, dubbed the "ham and eggs" fire because of the meal someone had been cooking when it broke out. By Thursday morning, it met the main fire, and a flaming wall raced southward into the Mission District. Stretching over six blocks between Dolores and Howard, it advanced steadily, passing 16th Street, then 17th, then 18th...

*Two hundred men of Noe Valley combined with other firefighters with barrels of water and wet sacks, and barricaded themselves behind wetted doors to backfire at Mission Park [now Dolores Park]. Old John Center's well furnished the water supply, from subterranean tanks he had made with hydrant connections in 1859. Up on our hill, no church ever held a communion service like the 11 of us lying side by side on mattresses on the grass.*

*My brother came up to the hill at 3 a.m. and told us the fire had been conquered. We couldn't get up off that grass quick enough, but he said, "Stay where you are. It's better here till daylight."*

*He took a pint flask from his pocket, and from one mouth to another this "saving swig" was passed.*

*Someone had pulled an old tin can piano out of a nearby home and was playing "Home Never Was Nothin' Like This." A babble of excited voices talked in all languages all night.*

The fire had at last been halted at 20th Street. The neighborhood brigades, helped by water from Old John Center's well and a wind that suddenly came from the south, had saved the day (and Noe Valley from dynamiting!). Hoses linked to a trusty hydrant at 20th and Church had also doused the blaze.

Today the victory is marked by a repainting of the hydrant each year on April 18. (You can join the '06 earthquake survivors in gilding the plug at 6:30 a.m.)

The excited babble of voices in "all languages" that Frances heard, reflected the makeup of the population of Noe Valley. Census records show that the majority of residents were immigrants, from almost every nation on earth.

North of Market, the fire still had the upper hand, and here the south wind blew it toward Russian Hill and North Beach, where it weaved back and forth, chased by frenzied firefighters. Before it was finally vanquished Saturday night, most of the area bounded by Market, Van Ness, and the Bay had burned.

In the Mission, the ground was razed "almost as bare as when the Spaniards first landed," according to one writer. On Dolores Street, where the fire had burned most of the east side, the houses across the wide thoroughfare had escaped the flames, but their paint was blistered and singed by intense heat. The church on the corner of 16th and Dolores was so badly damaged, it later had to be torn down. But nearby Mission Dolores, established in 1776, survived in one piece.

**Friday, April 20, 1906**

*We started a cavalcade back to Clipper Street. The old camp kitchens were still intact, and boy, but they looked good. There were plenty of bricks around our yard. We handed them around [to make a fireplace] and soon the frying pan was sizzling and the bean pot set aboiling. Windbreaks were built up around the stoves, and soon San Francisco's cooks were on the job. Kettleful after kettleful of water was boiled and we made coffee. The refugees stopped, drinking and warming themselves. Each had a tale to tell.*

Since gas stoves were unsafe, almost every home had a makeshift wood stove, placed in the street. These stayed in use for several weeks. Some were bordered by hastily constructed windbreaks, or even covered by a little shack. Noe Valley soon became a motley collection of proper Victorians and hobo shanties.

**The Following Weeks**

*Things began to hum in Noe Valley after the troops arrived on the 25th Street hill. The big Army truck had come tearing like mad down our street, with its mules and yelling soldiers almost knocking over the camp kitchens. Everyone got an eyeful of military life by day and night. Went to sleep with Taps, woke up with Reveille. Breakfasted at Mess Call.*

*At night, when the order came, "Lights out," the only sound to be heard was the steady tramp of the sentinels as they watched and walked their beats and at the least strike of a match, yelled, "Put out that light!"*

*Soldiers forced saloonkeepers to give up eatables. These were put in wagons and taken to James Lick School, which had been turned into a Food Supply Station and an Emergency Hospital. I lined up with the rest at the old school and got my can of tomatoes.*

*Inside of a week the hysteria was over,*

*Continued on Next Page*

## Refugees Camp Out in the Hills

*Continued from Previous Page*

and the refugees were settling down to meet existing conditions. People were housed in churches, garages, cemetery tombs, caves on the hillsides, streetcars, barns, barracks, tents on the hills, in parks and in private homes.

The population of Noe Valley was almost doubled by the influx of refugees, who camped in every available space. Many residents opened their homes to those in need. One man remembered that his parents let in 120 people, most of whom slept on mattresses in the basement.

With all the stores closed by official order, everyone lined up at James Lick and other schools to receive their ration of potatoes, macaroni, and canned vegetables, which were cooked in the convivial atmosphere of the street "kitchens." Cows on Twin Peaks continued to supply Noe Valley dairies, but bread was hard to come by because the bakery stoves were not yet functioning.

*There was no lack of water in Noe Valley. The pioneers' foresight now came in good stead. Our 40-foot well supplied over 2,000 people. The pump coughed up from morning till night, day after day, week after week. Tubs, boilers, jugs, demijohns, dishpans, barrels, bowls, pitchers, kettles, pots, pans, glasses—all were brought into our yard to be filled. Many had never seen a pump before and got a kick out of pumping. Not so us who had to do the 500 strokes daily to keep the tank filled.*

*We had 23 little quakes between April*

*18th and May 24th. On May 25th another came when we were all asleep. My bed caved in. When Ma yelled, "Where is she?" I yelled, "Don't worry, Ma! I'm safe down here in the alley." But I wasn't as far down as I thought—only on the floor.*

*When the Gas Company got orders to "light up," my brother lit up the house, and all the neighbors gathered around for a sing-song festival. The inspector said the chimney was OK, but not until my mother gave him a bottle of her famous catsup, a couple of glasses of homemade jelly, and a loaf of homemade bread.*

Life began to return to normal in Noe Valley and the rest of San Francisco. But repairing the devastation would be a Herculean task. Half the city had burned down. At least 2,000 people had died. And more than 200,000, almost half the city's population, were now homeless.

Still, like the phoenix rising from the ashes on San Francisco's seal, the city was able to pull itself up by its bootstraps. In less than a decade, the town had been rebuilt and San Francisco had hosted an opulent open house: the glorious Panama-Pacific International Exposition of 1915.

### 93 Years Later

Noe Valley fared relatively well in the 1906 quake, as it did again in the 1989 Loma Prieta Earthquake. And we like to think we are even better prepared today. Building codes have improved, and foundations have been bolted down. More people are aware that they should avoid lighting matches or using gas after an earthquake. (See accompanying box, for earthquake readiness information.)

On the other hand, there are more buildings erected on landfill today, the population is more densely packed, the Army is no longer housed at the Presidio, and humans are still, well, human.

## Remembering the Little Hydrant That Could

*By Suzanne Herel*

Survivors of the 1906 earthquake and San Franciscans wishing to commemorate those who perished in the disaster will gather for their annual fire hydrant painting ceremony on April 18, the 93rd anniversary of the Great Quake.

Located at 20th and Church streets, the hydrant—known affectionately as the "Little Giant"—is repainted gold each year in memory of its service during the raging fire that followed the earthquake. While other hydrants failed, the Little Giant continued to supply water to firefighters, allowing them to stave off the conflagration and save the Mission District.

The earthquake, which would have registered between 7.9 and 8.3 on today's Richter scale, lasted about 75 seconds and sparked a fire that burned for three days, destroying 28,000 buildings and killing more than 2,000 people.

So, as we wait obliviously, nervously, or somewhere in between, for the earth to move again, we can only hope we have the spirit of the San Franciscans of 1906, who knew how to clasp hands and pull together in the face of disaster.

*Editor's Note: This story was adapted from one that first appeared in the Noe Valley Voice in April 1980. A special thank-you to Melinda Breitmeyer, Victoria Colgan, Noe Valley Librarian Roberta Greifer, and, of course, to Frances Gibson, for her immeasurable contribution to San Francisco history. —Sally Smith*

Traditionally, the memorial ceremonies begin around 5 a.m.—the 1906 quake started at 5:12—at Lotta's Fountain at Market and Kearny streets, which served as a low-tech communications center after the earthquake. When those festivities die down, the crowd makes its way over to the hydrant, arriving around 6:30 or 7 a.m.

Years ago, a local man rose before dawn to repaint the hydrant anonymously each year—until he was discovered by a TV news reporter. The ceremony was then adopted by the St. Francis Hook & Ladder Society, said Secretary Susan Stacks. The society's 1930s coffee truck, which used to provide refreshments to firefighters, will be on display at the event.

Few survivors are left, but Stacks expects some to be in attendance. The oldest survivor is usually the first to spray-paint the hydrant, but anyone, including children, can take a turn, she said.

"The whole thing is in memory of the Little Giant that could pump." □

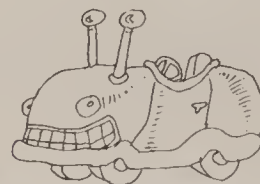
### Come Gild the 'Little Giant'

WHAT: 1906 Great Earthquake and Fire remembrance ceremony

WHERE: The fire hydrant at 20th and Church streets, at the top of Dolores Park

WHEN: 6:30 a.m. on Sunday, April 18, 1999

FOR INFORMATION: Call Susan Stacks, (415) 648-8676.



## NOE VALLEY ROUGHRIDERS' EARTHQUAKE SURVIVAL TIPS

**Quake Facts:** The 75-second Great Earthquake began in the pre-dawn—at 5:12 a.m.—of April 18, 1906. Scientists estimate that it would have registered 7.9 to 8.3 on the modern-day Richter scale. The much shorter and less destructive (7.1) Loma Prieta Earthquake struck on Oct. 17, 1989, at 5:04 p.m. Since that wakeup call, Noe Valley has vowed to be tops in earthquake preparation. Here are some things we'll need to get ready, pardner. —*The Nagging Valley Voice*

### First-Aid Kit

Store a first-aid kit in a central place and make sure it has a set of instructions.

### Wrench

Have a crescent or pipe wrench on hand to turn off gas and water valves. (Shut off the valves only if your house has sustained severe damage or you smell gas.)

### Flashlights

Keep flashlights—and batteries—in several locations in case of a power failure.

### A Fire Extinguisher

Your fire extinguisher should be the kind that works for all types of fires and should be easily accessible.

### Water, Disinfectant

Store 3 days' worth of drinkable water for you and your family (1 gallon per person per day), plus a disinfectant like chlorine bleach to purify it.

### Radio and Batteries

You'll need a portable radio so you can get emergency broadcasts and current disaster news. A cell phone would also come in handy.

### Dry or Canned Food

Store a week's supply of food for each person—preferably food that doesn't require refrigeration or cooking. Don't forget a can opener.

### Barbecue Grill or Stove

Store a grill or camp stove—and some charcoal and matches—in case your gas and electricity are shut off. (If you use it, remember to cook *outdoors only*.)

### Blankets, Clothing, Shoes

Put blankets, clothing, and an extra pair of running shoes in your earthquake supplies box. You might need them to keep warm or hike to the local canteen.

### Money

Get some. Then stash the \$20 bills and quarters in a safe place. Note: the pay phones should work even if regular phone lines are jammed.

*More nuggets can be found on pages B6 and B7 of the San Francisco phone book.*

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## SHORT TAKES

### James Lick Shows Off Talent

Are you scouting for the next Lauryn Hill? Want to see some topnotch entertainment within walking distance of your home? Then be sure to attend the James Lick Talent Show (and fundraiser), kicking off at 7 p.m. on Thursday, April 22.

Believe it or not, James Lick Middle School, at 1220 Noe St., has been showing off the talents of its kids for 15 years. And make no mistake about it—these kids are performers. At a recent rehearsal, the audience delighted in a feisty Ballet Folklórico stomp and wondered what had become of the lady who disappeared in the magic act. (There are no trap doors in the school's 500-seat art deco auditorium.)

The kids have been inspired by students from the city's School of the Arts, and polished to a shine under the direction of James Lick counselor Anthony Cavazos and PTA president Laurel Turner.

The price for the night of live entertainment is \$2 (or \$5 per family). For the stellar lineup, call Turner at 861-3718.

### Your Masterpiece at City Hall

At the request of Mayor Willie Brown, the San Francisco Art Commission is seeking artwork for a rotating exhibit in the newly refurbished City Hall. Works in all media will be considered, but the gallery's preference is for framed two-dimensional art suitable for wall display.

Interested artists should contact Rupert Jenkins, Gallery Director, at (415) 252-2568, or send a request for guidelines to City Hall Exhibitions, c/o S.F. Art Commission Gallery, 25 Van Ness Ave., Suite 240, San Francisco, CA 94102. If you prefer e-mail, write [sfacgallery@telis.org](mailto:sfacgallery@telis.org).

### Saturdays at the Randall

Throughout April, the Randall Museum offers drop-in art and science workshops for children every Saturday. However, on Saturday, April 17, the museum will also honor the 93rd anniversary of

the Great San Francisco Earthquake (April 18, 1906). From 1 to 3 p.m., kids can learn how a seismograph works, explore a refugee shack, see quake artifacts, and even try on clothes from 1906. There is also a short hike to an earthquake fault on Corona Heights Hill.

The following week, on April 24, is the Randall's annual Festival on the Hill. Interactive art and science activities will be featured, with live music and dance, kite-flying, giant puppets, drinks and hot dogs, and nature walks from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Admission is \$4. The Randall Museum is at 199 Museum Way, off Roosevelt, above the Castro. Phone: 554-9600.

### Jamestown's Jammin'

The Jamestown Community Center invites you to dance the night away with the Brazilian funk/samba band Vivendo de Pao at the third annual Jamestown Jam. Proceeds from the event benefit Jamestown's youth programs, including after-school arts, science, and math classes, individual tutoring, sports teams, and health services.

This year's Jam takes place on Friday, April 30, 9 p.m. to 2 a.m., at the 7th Note Showclub in North Beach, 915 Columbus Ave. Tickets cost \$20 in advance (\$25 at the door), and are available through Jamestown by calling 647-4709.

### My Oh My Oh, Cinco de Mayo

Don't miss San Francisco's annual Cinco de Mayo Parade and Festival, honoring Jalisco, Mexico. This year the festivities will be held on Sunday, May 2, starting at 10 a.m. The parade will start at 24th and Bryant streets, and move up 24th Street and then down Mission Street to Civic Center Plaza. Elaborate floats will depict the Aztec calendar, an Aztec pyramid, Benito Juarez, the Cathedral of Guadalajara, and the Mexican Eagle.

At Civic Center from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., there will be five stages, featuring music and dance from mariachi, folk, Latin, and tropical bands. The event will also host a car show, food booths, and free activities for kids. Admission is \$5; \$2 for seniors. Children under 12 are admitted free. For information, call the Mission Economic Cultural Association at 826-1401.

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The Singing Rainbow will give a concert in honor of Earth Day at the Noe Valley Ministry on April 24. The San Francisco Children's Chorus will also perform, and the show will be hosted by TV stars Robin Goodrow and Vanilla the Chimp.

## SHORT TAKES

### Library to Close for Big Move

The Mission Branch of the San Francisco Public Library has been operating out of temporary quarters at 2601 Mission St. since October 1997. At last, the branch is moving into its newly renovated home at 300 Bartlett (at 24th Street, between Mission and Valencia). As a result, the library will be closed from Sunday, April 11, through Monday, May 3, to move the books, computers, and other materials to the refurbished site. The branch will reopen on Tuesday, May 4, at 10 a.m.

The Bartlett Street building has not only been seismically upgraded, but extensively remodeled, with better lighting, new furniture and computers, a larger reading room, and murals by artist Emmanuel Montoya. A grand opening celebration, featuring Mayor Willie Brown, Supervisor Tom Ammiano, and Treasurer Susan Leal, has been set for May 8 at 1:30 p.m. To find out more, call 557-4277.

### Crisis Line Volunteers Needed

Are you a good listener? Caring and supportive? If so, then San Francisco Suicide Prevention needs your help. Volunteers are needed to staff the SFSP's crisis line, providing emotional support in a nonjudgmental manner, crisis management, and referrals where needed. Extensive training is available, and the next training class will begin on April 29. Call 984-1900 for an application or to get more information. Bilingual and/or people of color are encouraged to apply.

### Art, and More Art

"Seductive Tales," a group of Teresa Moore's oil on canvas paintings, is coming to Noe Valley after exhibition in New York, Miami, Chicago, Seattle, New Orleans, Canada, and Italy. Moore's art dwells on nightlife, good times, and fleeting romance. The show 17 Reasons, at 3961 24th St., will showcase her works from March 30 through May 9. A reception will be held Saturday, April 10, from 3 to 5 p.m. Call 206-1717 for more information.

Meanwhile, the Arc Seniors Program will present an art show at the Noe Valley Ministry from April 4 to May 5. All of the artwork is created by developmentally disabled seniors who participate in the Arc's recreation and leisure program. The Ministry is at 1021 Sanchez St. For further details, call Amanda Ray at 255-7200.

### Cover to Cover Blossoming

Although they've just moved their inventory to a new location, the folks at Cover to Cover Booksellers haven't missed a beat. They're now launching the Growing Readers Program for the seventh year in a row.

During the month of April, the store will sport a tree filled with blossoms bearing the names of young readers. Each time a patron buys a book for one of the children, a bloom is pulled from the tree and replaced with a bright red apple bearing the name of the donor. All books donated will go to low-income or homeless kids, through either the "Home Away from Homelessness" program or the "Prescription for Reading" program.

Come by Cover to Cover's new store at 3812 24th St. (near Church), or call 282-8080 for more information.

### Neighborhood Flea Market

Ready for a little spring cleaning? Rent a space and sell your excess stuff at the James Lick School Flea Market on Saturday, April 10, from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Stall space will be available in the schoolyard at Castro and 25th streets for \$10, \$20, or \$30, depending on the size of your space.

To rent a space, call Ray Ponce by April 6 at 695-5675, ext. 3144. Proceeds from the event will go toward funding field trips to Egypt and the Yucatan Peninsula in Mexico, for James Lick's sixth, seventh, and eighth graders.

### Rainbows for Earth Day

In celebration of this year's Earth Day, the Singing Rainbow Youth Ensemble will be joined by the San Francisco Children's Chorus in concert at the Noe Valley Ministry on Saturday, April 24, at 2 p.m. The show, full of original music about the Earth and her creatures, will be hosted by Robin Goodrow and Vanilla the Chimp, stars of the Saturday morning TV show *Buster and Me* (7 a.m., KRON).

Tickets are \$5 for kids 12 and under and \$10 for adults, and can be purchased from any member of the Singing Rainbow or at the Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St., during regular office hours.

Diamond Street resident Candy Forest, who directs both singing groups, says, "We are so excited about working with Robin Goodrow—she is an international star." She adds that her Earth Day shows often sell out, "so get your tickets early."

If you don't luck out, you can tune in to Channel 52's *Bay Views* show, and hear the Singing Rainbow at a later date. Though this show will be taped on the actual Earth Day (April 22), it will be shown on April 30, May 1, and May 2 at 6:30 p.m. For information about the Chorus or the Rainbow, call Forest at 550-7752.



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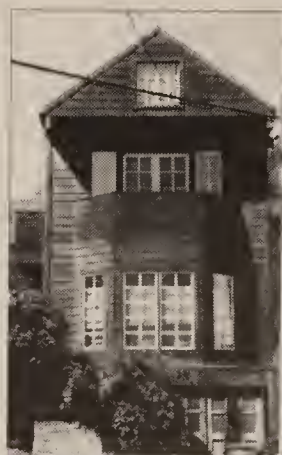
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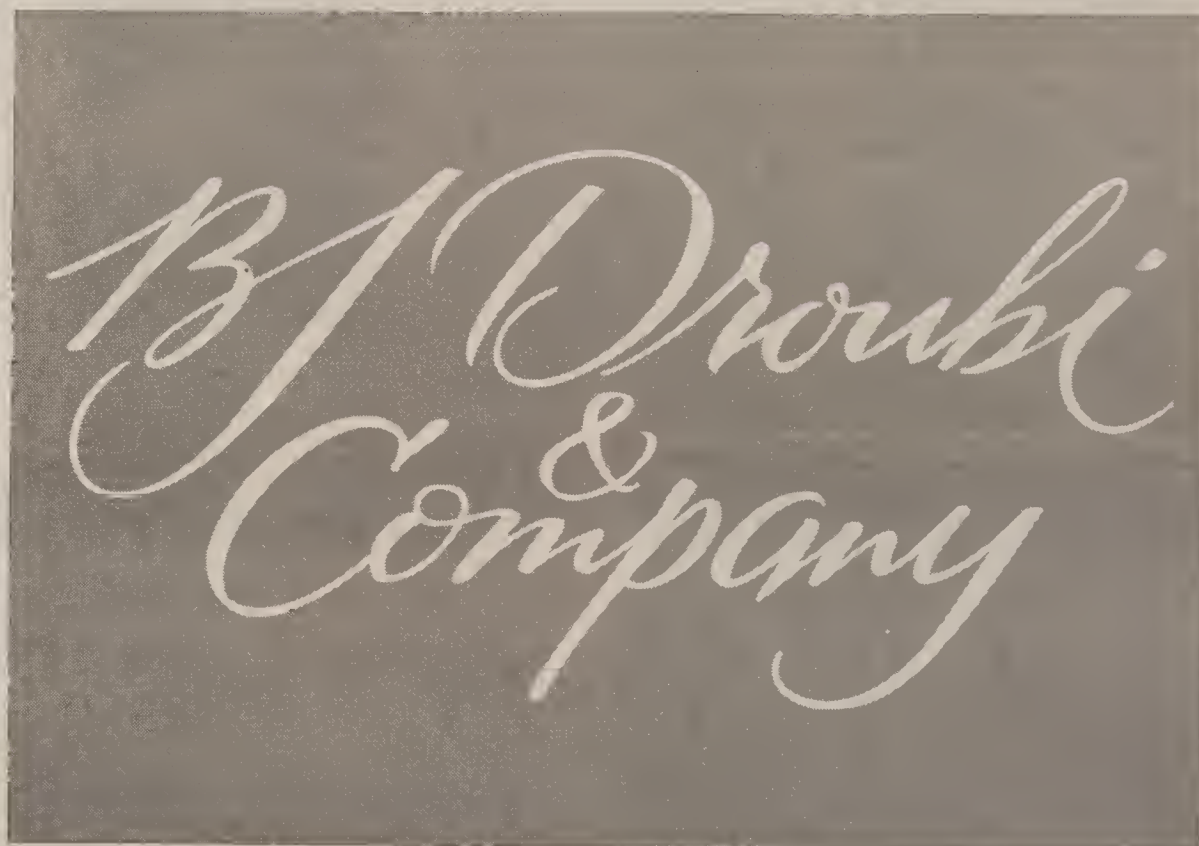
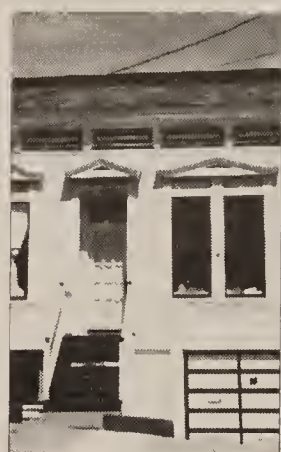
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# APRIL 1999

**APRIL 1–MAY 1:** "Pop! Pop! Pop!" is a POP ART EXHIBIT by children from the after-school arts program at Rooftop School. Reception April 9, 7–8:30 pm. Cafe ?, 2885 Diamond St. 643-1502.

**APRIL 1–MAY 9:** THERESA MOORE exhibits "Seductive Tales," femme fatales in oil on canvas at the gallery of 17 Reasons. Reception April 10, 3–5 pm. 3961 24th St. 206-1717.

**APRIL 3:** A FACULTY CONCERT and discussion features violinist Rachel Hurwitz and harpsichordist Phebe Craig. 8 pm. Community Music Center, 544 Capp St. 647-6015.

**APRIL 3 & 10:** TAX HELP is available for families with incomes under \$26,000. 10 am–2 pm. Central American Resource Center, 1245 Alabama St. Call 281-1600 for information.

**APRIL 3–17:** DOCENT TRAINING at the S.F. Maritime Historical Park runs for three Saturdays, from 10 am to 3 pm. Call Sue Schmidt at 556-1613.

**APRIL 4–MAY 5:** Developmentally disabled adults from the Arc Seniors Program will exhibit ARTWORK at Gallery Sanchez in the Noe Valley Ministry. 1021 Sanchez St. 255-7200.

**APRIL 5, 19 & 26; MAY 1:** Robert Ressler, Ph.D., offers WORKSHOPS for artists, performers, and writers on ways to tap creativity. 7:30–9:30 pm. (May 1: 1–5:30 pm.) Call 289-2212 for Noe Valley location.

**APRIL 6:** GARAGE SALE SIGNS are the topic of a debate at the Board of Supervisors Housing Committee Hearing. 10 am. City Hall, Room 263. Free Speech Ad Hoc Committee: 289-6575.

**APRIL 6–27:** Lauren Coleman's Tuesday JAZZ DANCE classes begin at 6 pm. Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St. 282-2782.

**APRIL 6–27:** The 30th Street Senior Center hosts Tuesday Latin, swing, and ballroom DANCE for all levels. 2 pm. Room 325, 225 30th St. 550-2221.



Mark Orton, Rob Burger, and Carla Kihlstedt form the Tin Hat Trio, who'll be playing "new tango" at the Noe Valley Music Series April 23. Photo by Russ Langford.

**APRIL 7:** The Adventist HEALTH VAN offers free blood pressure testing and low-cost cholesterol screening. 10 am–4 pm. Bell Market lot. 775-2570.

**APRIL 7:** Combine Free Day at the Zoo with a (human) Health and FITNESS FAIR: glucose and cholesterol testing, and a visit with the elephants! 11 am–3 pm. 1 Zoo Road. 753-7080.

**APRIL 7:** AUDITIONS for a San Francisco City Chorus pops concert (scheduled for June 5) welcome all voice parts; call 756-SONG for appointment.

**APRIL 9:** Lev Raphael signs his latest Nick Hoffman MYSTERY, *The Death of a Constant Lover*. 4–5 pm. The San Francisco Mystery Bookstore, 4175 24th St. 282-7444.

**APRIL 9–17:** The SHOOK DANCE TROUPE performs *The Natural and Fantastic Dreamshake* as part of the ongoing Bread and Butter series. Fri. and Sat., 8 pm. Dancers' Group Studio Theater, 3221 22nd St. 824-5044.

**APRIL 9–19:** "HOLLYWOOD HOUNDS" is a glamour photo opportunity for dogs and cats; costumes are available. \$25 donation. Call the SPCA at 554-3064 to set up an appointment.

**APRIL 9–25:** Goat Hall Productions performs WEILL and Brecht's *The Threepenny Opera*. Fri. & Sat., 8 pm; Sun. 7 pm. 400 Missouri St. 289-6877.

**APRIL 9–25:** TENNESSEE WILLIAMS' *Suddenly Last Summer* features two Noe Valley residents: Neal Shorstein, director, and Anna Van der Heide, acting the part of Mrs. Venable. Thurs.–Sat., 8 pm; Sun. 2 pm. The Shelton Theater, 533 Sutter St. (510) 594-1400.

**APRIL 9–MAY 2:** The ANGST ENSEMBLE performs *Sight Unseen*, a "portrait of the artist as a young capitalist." Fri. & Sat., 8 pm; Sun. 7 pm. 449 Powell St. 433-1172.

**APRIL 10:** A FLEA MARKET fundraiser for James Lick and Buena Vista schools gets under way at 8 am. 1220 Noe St. Ray Ponce, 695-5675, ext. 3144.

**APRIL 10:** The California Council on Wireless Technology Impacts holds a CONFERENCE at Westminster Presbyterian Church in Tiburon. 9 am–4 pm. Call Libby Kelly, 892-1863.

**APRIL 10:** TECHNOCRACY presents a current events discussion, focusing on crime, the environment, and poverty. 2 pm. Noe Valley Library, 451 Jersey St. 771-9994.

**APRIL 10:** The San Francisco KLEZMER EXPERIENCE performs a concert at 8:15 pm. Noe Valley Music Series at the Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St. 454-5238.

**APRIL 11:** GREGG MAIN's first novel, *Every Trace*, is described as a "white-knuckle ride." 2–3 pm. S.F. Mystery Bookstore, 4175 24th St. 282-7444.

**APRIL 11:** Noe Valley CHAMBER MUSIC features the Bay Area ensemble HelioTropé, performing "Hildegard/Avant-Garde," medieval and new music for voices. 4 pm. Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St. 333-9444.

**APRIL 11:** Sunday Night EVENSONG is a healing service of chants, silent meditation, and prayer. 7 pm. Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St. 282-2317.

**APRIL 13:** FILMS for children 3 to 5 are screened at 10 and 11 am. Noe Valley Library, 451 Jersey St. 695-5095.



Shannon McGrann (right) plays Catherine, and Anna Van der Heide her archenemy, Mrs. Venable, in Tennessee Williams' gothic work *Suddenly Last Summer*, opening April 8 at the Shelton Theater on Sutter Street.

**APRIL 13:** Susan Pena leads a SING-ALONG folk music event for children 3 to 5. 10:30 am. Eureka Valley/Harvey Milk Library, 3555 16th St. 554-9445.

**APRIL 14:** Gary T. and his Poet Tree offer INTERACTIVE POETRY for all ages. 7 pm. Glen Park Library, 653 Chenery, 337-4740.

**APRIL 14, 21 & 28:** The Noe Valley Library hosts LAPSITS for infants, toddlers, and their parents beginning at 7 pm. 451 Jersey St. 695-5095.

**APRIL 15:** Peter Robinson signs his new MYSTERY, *In a Dry Season*. 2–3 pm. S.F. Mystery Bookstore, 4175 24th St. 282-7444.

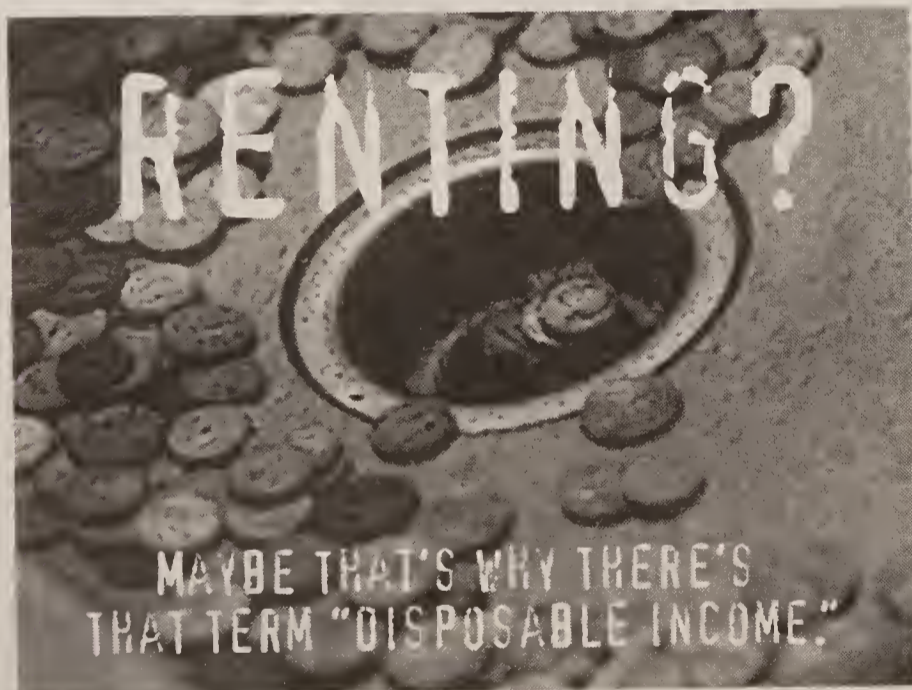
**APRIL 16 & 17:** Tweel & Company present DANCE, live music, and visual art at the Dance Mission Theater. 8 pm. 3316 24th St. 695-0746.

**APRIL 16 & 17:** BOX SET DUO gives two live CD-recording concerts. 8:15 pm. Noe Valley Music Series, Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St. 454-5238.

**APRIL 16–MAY 30:** CLOWN JEFF RAZ juggles love, marriage, and adoption in a new play, *Birth Mark*. Thurs.–Sat. 8:30 pm; Sun. 7:30 pm. The Marsh, 1062 Valencia St. 826-5750.

**APRIL 17:** Noe Valley's Neighborhood Emergency Response Team (NERT) provides information about earthquake preparedness from 10 am to noon in the James Lick School playground. 1220 Noe St. David Deakin, 282-4367.

**APRIL 17:** A CARWASH at Fairmount Elementary School runs from 10 am to 3 pm, enjoy a hotdog or ice cream while you wait. 65 Chenery St. 695-5669.



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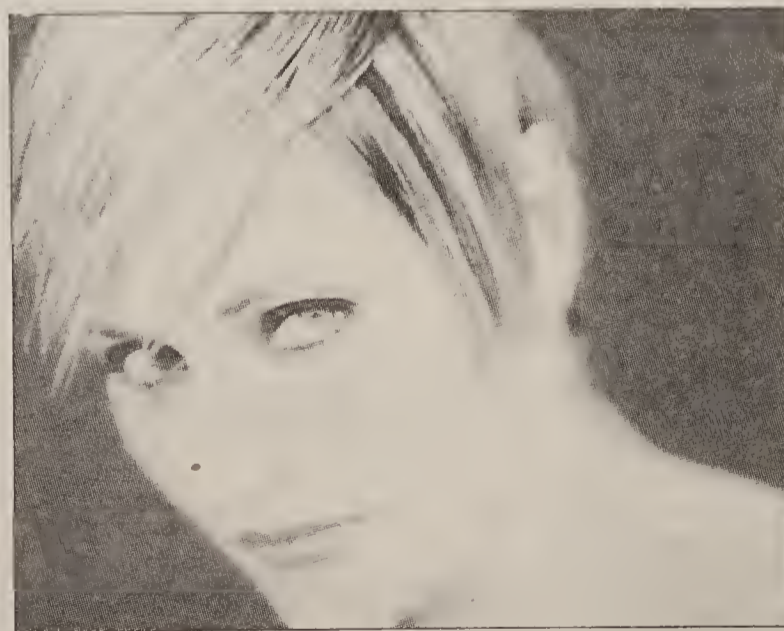
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# CALENDAR

**APRIL 17:** NOSE WOES and allergies are up for discussion at St. Luke's free community lecture. 10:30 am-noon. 3555 Cesar Chavez St. 641-6465.

**APRIL 17:** Julie Oxendale helps writers overcome "Procrastination 101." 10 am-4 pm. Writing Salon, 642-9793.

**APRIL 17:** Artist and CHILDREN'S BOOK author Todd Parr, called "the Keith Haring for kids," signs copies of his books at FAO Schwartz. 11 am-3 pm. 48 Stockton St. (310) 454-8825.

**APRIL 17:** EARTHQUAKE DAY features seismic learning, songs and games, and a chance for children to try on clothes from 1906. 1-3 pm. The Randall Museum, 199 Museum Way. 554-9600.

**APRIL 17:** The S.F. Mystery Bookstore hosts a book signing by Gregg Andrew Hurwitz from 2 to 3 pm. 4175 24th St. 282-7444.

**APRIL 18:** Meet survivors of the 1906 EARTHQUAKE at the fire hydrant "that saved the Mission District." 6:30 am. 20th & Church, above Dolores Park.

**APRIL 18:** Your new cat or dog is waiting for you at Hopalong Animal Rescue's MOBILE PET ADOPTION. Noon-3 pm. In front of Zephyr Realty, 4040 24th St. Pali Boucher, 642-4786.

**APRIL 18:** The Sanchez Street STORY SWAP features Sandra Niman. 2:30-4:30 pm. 1589 Sanchez St. 647-7455.

**APRIL 20:** NORMAN SOLOMON discusses *The Habits of Highly Deceptive Media*. 7:30 pm. Modern Times Bookstore, 888 Valencia St. 282-9246.

**APRIL 20 & 27:** STORY TIME for preschoolers is 10 am at the Noe Valley Library. 451 Jersey St. 695-5095.

**APRIL 21:** JAY THE JUGGLER performs for children 5 and up at the Excelsior Branch Library. 4 pm. 4400 Mission St. 337-4735.

**APRIL 21:** The Bay Area VIDEO COALITION shows "Visual Poetry and Experimental Video" from 7 to 9 pm. 2727 Mariposa St. 861-3282.

**APRIL 21-JUNE 23:** Jane Underwood leads a 10-week course, "Write from Real Life: PERSONAL ESSAYS." Wed., 7-9:30 pm. The Writing Salon. Call for location: 642-9793.



The SHOOK troupe will perform a dance concert, "The Natural and Fantastic Dreamshake," at Oancers' Group Studio Theater on 22nd Street April 9-10 and 16-17.

**APRIL 22:** The "Women of Purpose, Women of Vision" video series at the Main Library features a documentary, *MOTHER TERESA*. Noon. Koret Auditorium, 100 Larkin St. 557-4515.

**APRIL 22:** ANGELA ALIOTO speaks and signs her new book, *Straight to the Heart — Political Cantos*. 7 pm. The Cannery, 3rd floor conference center, 2801 Leavenworth St. 750-9986.

**APRIL 22:** The UPPER NOE NEIGHBORS will choose committee heads at their monthly meeting at the Upper Noe Recreation Center. 7:30 pm. Day & Sanchez Vicki Rosen, 285-0473.

**APRIL 23 & 24:** A BOWED INSTRUMENTS FESTIVAL features exhibits of acoustic and electric musical instruments from 5 to 8 pm on Friday, before an 8:15 pm concert by the Tin Hat Trio, Azigza, and Tracy Silverman. Festival continues all day Saturday, ending with an 8:15 pm concert by violinist Darol Anger and his Jazz Guys. Workshops by Dave Balakrishnan and Anthony Blea will be held Sat., 1-6 pm. Noe Valley Music Series at the Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St. Advance tickets Streetlight Records. 454-5238 or (650) 961-6247.

**APRIL 24:** "The Importance of WOMEN'S FRIENDSHIPS in Any Language" is the lecture topic at the Older Women's League (OWL). 10:30 am-2:30 pm. First Unitarian Church, 1187 Franklin St. 989-4422.

**APRIL 24:** The Randall Museum's "Festival on the Hill" features interactive art and science activities including giant puppets and an inflatable bouncer, plus music and refreshments. 11 am-3 pm. 199 Museum Way. 554-9600.

**APRIL 24:** The SINGING RAINBOW performs an Earth Day concert with the San Francisco Children's Chorus. 2 pm. Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St. 550-7752.



The Randall Museum celebrates the arrival of spring with music, dance, puppets, kites, and art and science projects at its April 24 Festival on the Hill, in Corona Heights.

**APRIL 24:** Phil Coulter, IRELAND's "Ambassador for Music," gives a concert to benefit St. Paul's retrofit project. 8 pm. 221 Valley St. 648-7538.

**APRIL 24 & 25:** The S.F. GAY MEN'S CHORUS keeps *Misbehavin'* with Nell Carter. Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 2 pm. Masonic Auditorium, 1111 California St. 863-4472.

**APRIL 24, MAY 1 & 8:** The citywide Neighborhood Emergency Response Team (NERT) offers an earthquake safety training on three Saturdays. 9 am-4 pm. 2310 Folsom St. For info, call Noe Valley NERT's David Deakin, 282-4367.

**APRIL 25:** The annual SPING CELEBRATION at the Rocky Mountain Participation Nursery School features live music, games, a petting zoo, and an auction. 11 am-3 pm. Peixotto Park, 2475 15th St. 552-2929.

## May Calendar Deadline

The next issue of the *Noe Valley Voice* will be unfurled on May 5, and will cover calendar events from May 5 to June 2. We'd appreciate it if you'd send us your items by **April 15**.

Please mail your notice to the *Noe Valley Voice* Calendar, 1021 Sanchez St., San Francisco, CA 94114. Or you can e-mail short items to [jaxvoice@aol.com](mailto:jaxvoice@aol.com).

For calendar changes or questions, call Karol at 285-6347. Thanks for keeping our Noe Valley datebooks full.

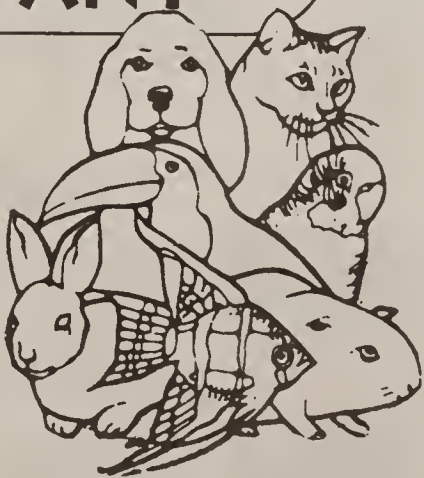
**APRIL 25:** Walter Satterthwait will be on hand for a BOOK SIGNING at the S.F. Mystery Bookstore. 3 to 4 pm. 4175 24th St. 282-7444.

**APRIL 30:** The JAMESTOWN JAM features dancing to Brazilian funk band Vivendo de Pao; proceeds benefit the Jamestown Community Center's youth programs. 9 pm-2 am. 7th Note Showclub, 915 Columbus Ave. 647-4709.

**MAY 2:** Join the Sunday CINCO DE MAYO parade, starting on 24th Street (at Bryant) at 10 am and continuing on Mission Street to Civic Center Plaza. A car show and mariachi, folk, and Latin rock bands and will entertain at five stages. 11 am to 6 pm. Mission Economic Cultural Association, 826-1401.

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## Let BYLINES Be BYLINES

### Are They Jamming the Danger Signals?

Breast Cancer Activists Hold  
Conference on Cell Phones

By Nancy Evans

Like many communities across the country, San Francisco has seen ongoing controversy over the siting of cellular transmission towers. In 1998, Noe Valley residents were successful in preventing PacBell and Cellular One from putting antennas on the Noe Valley Ministry, which also houses a daycare center. Struggles have also ensued in the Ingleside, the Marina, and other parts of the city. Now there is an effort to install six more antennas on the Tenderloin YMCA building, which has two daycare centers nearby.

Cell phones and cell towers emit non-ionizing radiation. The telecommunications industry has tried to convince the public that cell phones and cell towers are safe and that science has settled the question once and for all. Unfortunately, nothing could be further from the truth.

The science is still incomplete and likely to stay that way in the U.S., because federal research in this area has been halted due to lack of funding. However, evidence is increasing that significant health risks exist, ranging from headaches, memory loss, and lack of concentration, to cancer.

I have been in touch with scientists in non-ionizing radiation research since 1995, when I began production on the film *Rachel's Daughters: Searching for the Causes of Breast Cancer*.

The more I learn about research findings outside the U.S., which often go unreported in the mainstream media, the more concerned I become that the cell

phone industry and the media are jamming the danger signal. A recent Canadian news program called "The Fifth Estate" has validated my concern.

Some scientists I've talked to have suggested that non-ionizing radiation from cell phones and cell towers can have harmful health effects, and the public needs to know what they are. Research must continue until we have all the answers. In the meantime, people need clear, honest, and current information about what they can do to take prudent avoidance measures.

On April 10, the California Council on Wireless Technology Impacts is hosting a conference on health and safety issues related to cellular phones, antennas, and towers. The conference will be held at Westminster Presbyterian Church in Tiburon, from 9 a.m. to 3:45 p.m. Local sponsors include Noe Valley Families and the Breast Cancer Fund, located in San Francisco at 282 Second St. Other co-sponsors are the Marin Health Council, Marin Breast Cancer Watch, and Marin Beyond Pesticides.

Dr. Neil Cherry, a biophysicist and member of parliament in New Zealand—he was a guest on KQED Radio's "Forum" in 1998—will be among the featured speakers. Also speaking will be Dr. Henry Lai, a biomedical researcher at the University of Washington; Peter Serick, assessor for the firm Environmental Testing and Technology; and Cindy Sage, an environmental consultant and owner of Sage Associates.

Please join me for this important conference. Advance registration is \$5 (\$7 at the door). No one will be turned away for lack of funds. Send your check or money order to EMR Network, 936B Seventh St., Suite 206, Novato, CA 94945. For further information, contact Libby Kelley at (415) 892-1863. □

Nancy Evans is a Cesar Chavez Street resident who works as a health science writer, editor, and consultant. She is also a woman living with breast cancer and a co-producer (with Allie Light and Irving Saraf) of the documentary film *Rachel's Daughters*. You can e-mail her at nancywrite@aol.com.



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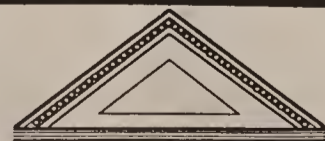
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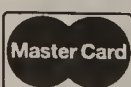
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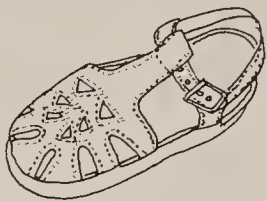
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## Voice Readers Spring Writes

The photos and notes sent in by this issue's group of traveling readers were received during a chilly Noe Valley winter, and they've helped us to consider the shorts and T-shirts drawer. We're sure that the local weather will help make our sunshine fantasies real. Soon.



Liberty Street resident Matt Hall poses poolside in Playa del Carmen, Quintana Roo, Mexico. Photo by Elizabeth Connolly.



Michael Fasman and Karin Payson took their noses out of the news for a moment when they reached the Taj Mahal in Agra, India.



Larry Gutierrez needed to find a shady spot to read his Voice across from Diamond Head on Waikiki Beach.



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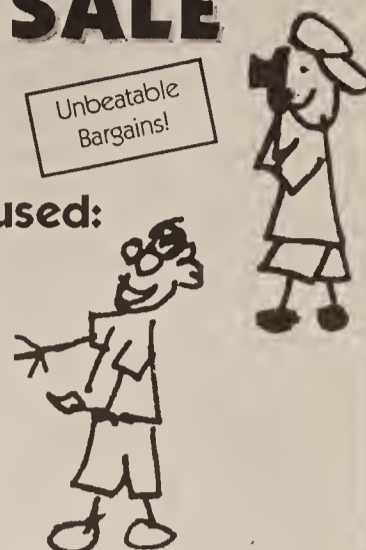
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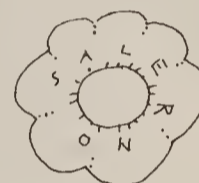
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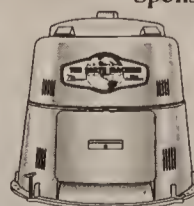
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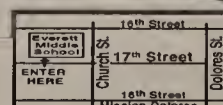


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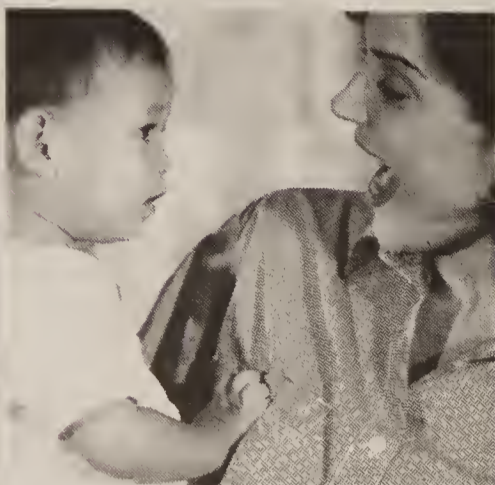
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## Kids' Picks

### *No Broccoli—No Dessert*

## Restaurants That Are Happy to See Half-Pints

By Dodie Hamblen

Remember when dining out meant lingering over a meal accented by candles, table linens, and fine wine?

But that was before you had kids — those precious darlings who can't sit still for a nanosecond, subsist mainly on carbohydrates, and think that a fork is a missile to be fired at the closest moving target, i.e., your waiter's head.

When you eat out with kids, you're not really expecting a fine dining experience—you just want to get everyone fed without a fatality.

Lucky for us, Noe Valley has plenty of family-friendly restaurants to choose from. Here are some tips from local parents on where to take the kids for chow, and how to survive the excursion with your smile intact.

"You have to have a strategic plan," says Maryfran De Stefano, mother of nearly 6-year-old Giancarlo. She advises parents to "pack defensively" before leaving home. Crayons and paper, along with a few small toys, will keep your kids occupied while you wait for your food. "You want the food to arrive before you run through your repertoire. No one wants to reach that desperate moment," she warns.

De Stefano's favorite kid-friendly restaurant is Pasta Pomodoro at 24th and Noe. "If you asked Giancarlo, he'd say Barney's, but I think Pasta Pomodoro is nice. They are child-oriented. They get you in and out, and it's beautifully loud." (Noise is a boon to family dining—you don't have to worry about your kids' "outside voices" disturbing fellow diners.)

Kids' portions of plain pasta with sauce on the side are available, says De Stefano, and the lemonade and chocolate mousse are big hits with Giancarlo. The food appeals to grownups as well. "Even my parents, who are first-generation Italians, like the food."

Another top choice for both kids and adults is Barney's Gourmet Hamburgers, on 24th between Castro and Diamond.

Jackie Haslam, a 22nd Street mom, says 4-year-old Ethan "really likes Barney's. If you're in the mood for a burger, it's a good place to go. Ethan has french fries, a hamburger, and a milkshake."

Barney's also provides crayons and a kids' menu (with coloring book), featuring hotdogs, burgers, and grilled cheese sandwiches, which Haslam feels is a big plus. Her only complaint is that service can be a tad slow. "Pasta Pomodoro does the service thing well," says Haslam.

Noe Street dad Michael Immerman and his 3-year-old son, David, have a standing Friday-night date at Haystack Pizza, on 24th near Sanchez. "David loves going there," says Immerman. "They're great. There are always lots of kids there, and I feel like they're glad to see us. They let David go in the kitchen and watch them flip pizza."

Service at Haystack is definitely geared toward families, he says, and the restaurant has booster chairs, highchairs, and crayons. "We always order pizza, but you can also get pastas and salads," says Immerman. "The food is good. It's a regular joint—your basic pizzeria."

Immerman says that when wife Dana Geller comes along, the family prefers to dine at Miss Millie's, across the street from Barney's on 24th above Castro. "It's also kid-friendly, and the food is more healthful."

Twenty-fourth Street's Leslie Crawford seconds the motion. She and husband Steve Fox eat there regularly with 18-month-old Sam. "We usually have brunch at Miss Millie's," says Crawford. "It's a little expensive, but it's a treat, and cheaper than a babysitter."

**Ready to Roll:** Madeleine Gendreau, 5, Maya Herbsman, 3, and Christopher Vilorio, 5, have been outfitted with snacks and coloring supplies.

Photo by Pamela Gerard

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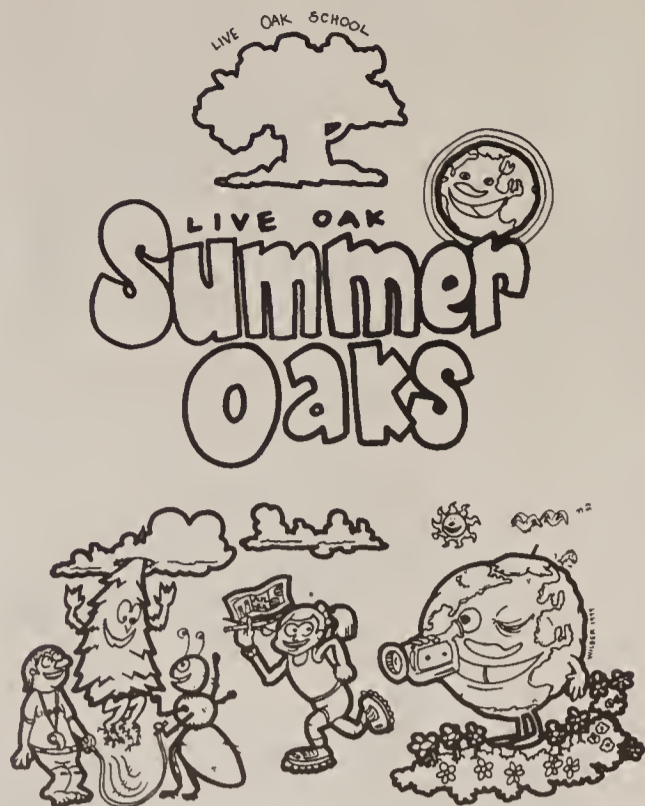
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*Continued on Next Page*



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Four-year-old Jack Litster can survive any excursion to 24th Street as long as he has his trusty tackle box, filled with trail mix, Cheerios, and goldfish crackers. Photo by Pamela Gerard

## Kids' Picks

### Where to Take the Small Fry to Eat

*Continued from Previous Page*

Crawford gives the restaurant high marks in both health and hospitality. "The staff is so nice with kids. They all know Sam by name and will walk around with him. Sam likes the roasted root vegetables, but there are kid-friendly foods on the menu like French toast." Highchairs are available, and the staff knows how to give families the extra attention they

need, like bringing the bread right away.

Crawford says the other brunch patrons at Miss Millie's are generally tolerant of kids. "I've never had any hairy eyeballs." But, she adds, attitudes may be different at dinnertime, when people are paying more and expect a little more formal atmosphere.

All the parents I interviewed for this story noted that diners in Noe Valley were very accepting of "normal kid behavior."

Additional restaurants recommended by moms and dads were Savor Restaurant and Casa Mexicana, both on 24th near Sanchez; Valentine's Cafe on Church near 30th; and What's for Dessert, at Church and 27th streets.

If you or your kids have your own favorite eateries, please drop the *Voice* a line (1021 Sanchez St., San Francisco, CA 94114, or [jaxvoice@aol.com](mailto:jaxvoice@aol.com)). Graciousness—and free use of the crayons—should never go unrewarded. □

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# FLORENCE'S FAMILY ALBUM

Illustrated Reminiscences  
by Florence Holub

## Connections to the Mooney Family

Each month I carry a few copies of the *Voice* to the de Young Museum, where a number of my arty friends seem to enjoy reading about the goings-on in Noe Valley. One who is especially interested is Jean Mooney, a volunteer docent who has family connections with our neighborhood as well as a rich storehouse of memories.

I got a small dose of them one day recently, when she kindly drove me home after we'd given our tours at the museum. As we parked on my steep block of 21st Street, she told me that her married sister, Doris, had lived down the hill and across the street during the 1930s. Jean had trouble recognizing the house as she remembered it—a white Victorian with a side yard. But that was not surprising. The house had been remodeled several times since her sister lived there.

By the time my man Leo and I moved to the street in 1956, the once-proud Victorian had been stripped and covered with stucco. Then, about 25 years ago, it was again transformed by Noe Valley architect Al Lanier, husband of artist Ruth Asawa. Al created a handsome, chocolate-colored redwood structure with doors painted a burnt-orange.

When Jean and I located the building, she noted with a chortle that her sister had paid \$18 per month to rent the second-floor flat. I was able to join in the amusement, saying that in the same era, Leo and I had paid even less for our ivy-covered love nest on Mars Street—\$17! Those were the days, just prior to World War II (we were married in '41).

Jean's family history goes back to when her father, Edward Mooney, was born in 1881, to Irish-immigrant parents on San Francisco's Rincon Hill. The Mooney family moved to Noe Valley when their eldest son (Jean's father Edward) was old enough to enter grade school.

Edward's mother took him to St. James on Fair Oaks Street, hoping to enroll him there, but the nuns informed her that the school no longer accepted little boys. More welcoming was the local public school, the old Edison Grammar School, a stately wooden structure located on Church Street between 22nd and Hill streets.

After he grew up and got married, Ed Mooney often recounted his adventures in and around the neighborhood. Before the automobile came along, he would hike all the way to Hunters Point to go fishing. Or if horses were available, he and his friends would gallop off to dig in the mud for clams and oysters. These would serve as the Friday supper for many a good Catholic family.

Ed and his brothers became particularly active in St. Paul's Parish, then under the leadership of Father Michael Connolly. During Connolly's pastorate, from 1897 to 1925, St. Paul's built a new church, a rectory, two convents, and three school buildings! The priest didn't do it alone, however. He mobilized every able-bodied person in the parish, including Jean's father.

Ed was always extremely proud to say he had a hand in building St. Paul's, our twin-spired landmark on Church



Ed Mooney (second from left) and his mates often sailed back and forth from Hawaii, unloading their cargo at the C&H Sugar Refinery on the Carquinez Straits. Photo courtesy Jean Mooney

Street. Although the cornerstone was laid in 1900, St. Paul's was only half-built when the 1906 earthquake struck. Fortunately, it suffered little damage.

Ed Mooney, who was then 24, rushed down to Market Street to see the devastation and then raced back to Noe Valley, where he helped carry stoves into the street for the women to safely cook on. (Read an eyewitness account of the '06 quake starting on page 1 of this month's *Voice*.)

Once the fire had subsided, Ed and an army of St. Paul parishioners returned to the ruins to gather bricks and cobblestones, which they then hauled back to Noe Valley. Historians say that parts of City Hall are buried within the granite walls of St. Paul's Church, completed five years later.



St. Paul's Church includes rubble from City Hall, destroyed in the 1906 earthquake.

By the time the church was dedicated in 1911, Ed Mooney had met and married Gertrude Leanhardt, and the couple were on their way to producing three daughters—Doris, Lucile, and Jean.

When one of the kids developed asthma, the family thought it wise to move to a sunnier climate. In 1925, they packed up their belongings and headed for San Rafael, where Jean attended school until the sixth grade. In 1933, after the family returned to good health, they moved back to Noe Valley, settling in a flat at 779 Dolores St. Jean then entered the old Notre Dame High School on Dolores Street. She later went on to get her teaching credential at San Francisco State College.

During his long life, Jean's father worked only two trades. After the eighth grade, he took a job with Union Iron Works (now Bethlehem Steel). But when he reached 20, he went off to sea. He first sailed to Hawaii as an oiler with the Pacific Mail, an iron-clad vessel. He'd return with a cargo of molasses made from sugar cane to be delivered to the C&H Sugar Refinery in Crockett. After the outbreak of World War II, his cargo changed to butter and war brides.

All in all, Ed Mooney spent 40 years on the ocean blue, and he eventually rose to be chief engineer of the Matson Line. This meant that his family didn't see him much, only a day or two every three weeks.

By the start of the war, Jean had become a teacher at Bayshore City, a small primary school in Visitacion Valley, where the Cow Palace is today. There she remained, teaching little children, until she retired in 1985. To enhance her retirement, she embarked

upon a docent training course at the de Young, which designs art programs for both young and old.

I have frequently noted what an asset Jean is in this endeavor, for when presented with some demanding assignment, she is always willing to say "Okay," after everyone else has said "No way!"

Jean came to the rescue again last month, when I was confronted with a blank page on my typewriter. (She also lent some Irish touches to this article.) She told me that a few years ago she had a surprising encounter in Golden Gate Park. She had taken her little dog, an Irish (she says) Lhasa apso named Sukey (Susan in Irish), to Stow Lake for an outing. She sat on the bench while Sukey beguilingly greeted each passerby.

A young lady pushing a stroller responded in a friendly way. The woman was wearing a sweatshirt emblazoned with letters spelling out Noe Valley. Jean remarked that the only people she knew who hailed from that old Irish neighborhood, besides her father, were the Scullys, her sister Lucile's husband's family, who lived at 923 Sanchez St.

To their mutual astonishment, the young lady said, "That's my address!" After they exchanged descriptions of the house, Jean was convinced they were speaking of the same property, which she had often visited as a child.

Charles Scully, a policeman, had built a small cottage on Sanchez early in this century. Later, he moved the cottage to the rear of the lot to make room for a pair of flats facing the street. This is where his five children grew up.

Sadly, Charles Scully died young, leaving his wife to raise the children alone. After her death in 1961, the property was sold, then later resold to a young couple.

Last month I walked down the Sanchez hill to check it out and was delighted to discover that this fine building belonged to none other than Roger Rubin and his "bride" Renée Koury. (Roger is also known as Mazook, and is the author of the *Voice's* amusing Rumors column.)

When I spoke to Renée, she did not recall meeting Jean on that day in the park. Nevertheless, I am convinced that Renée and the young lady in the Noe Valley sweatshirt are one and the same. The youngster in the stroller was probably Shayna, their daughter, or perhaps it was their youngest, Joshua.

The two dwellings on Sanchez were joined together at some point, which creates a spacious, gracious living for this family of four. That is the happy ending to this story, which began long ago with the Mooney family, who left so much in Noe Valley for us to enjoy. □

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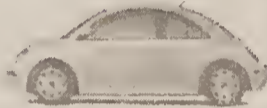
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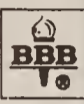


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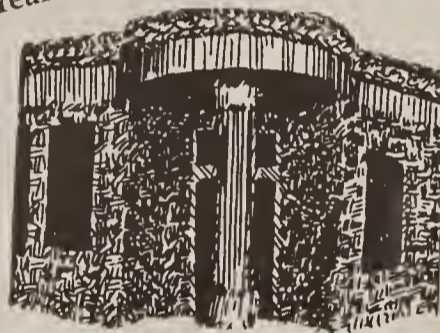
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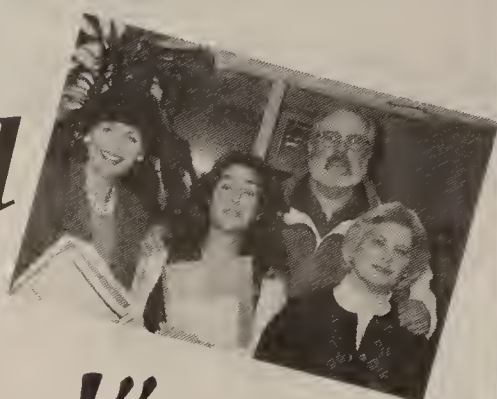
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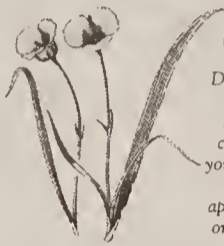
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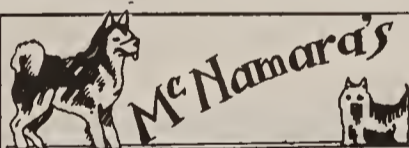
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Each month the Class Ads and top news stories are posted on our web site for your enjoyment.

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## CLASS ADS

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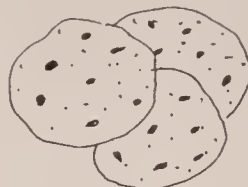
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**Tax Preparation** for individuals, financial services for travelers and the distracted. Enrolled agent licensed to represent clients before the IRS. Reasonable rates. \$10 discount with this ad. (415) 695-1819. Gretchen Beck, E.A.

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### How to Place a Class Ad in the Noe Valley Voice

**It's easy.** You type or print the text of your ad, multiply the number of words by **30¢ a word**, and send us a check or money order for the total amount.

Mail your ad and check, made out to the *Noe Valley Voice*, so that we receive it by the **15th of the month** before the month you'd like to advertise in.

The address is Noe Valley Voice Class Ads, 1021 Sanchez St., San Francisco, CA 94114.

Even if the ad is a renewal from a prior issue, please send us the full text of your ad. Also note that phone numbers, including area code, count as one word.

**10 for 10 Discount:** The *Noe Valley Voice* publishes a new edition 10 months a year. (We're on vacation in January and August.) If you place the *same* class ad in 10 issues, you are entitled to a 10 percent discount. To figure your cost, deduct 10 percent from the total amount due for 10 issues.

The next *Noe Valley Voice* will be distributed on May 5. **The deadline for May 1999 Class Ads is April 15.**

Sorry, the *Voice* is unable to accept Class Ads by phone or e-mail at this time. But there's one consolation: The ads are displayed on our web site at no charge: [www.noevalleyvoice.com](http://www.noevalleyvoice.com).

Class advertisers should keep in mind that only the first few words of the ad (not to exceed one line of type) will be set in bold. Also, receipts and tear sheets will be provided only if your order is accompanied by an SASE. Thank you. □

**Vacation Retreat for Noe Valleyans.** Calistoga/St. Helena area. Three bedrooms, two baths, sleeps six (maximum); large decks with views of stream/forest; fireplace with wood supplied; 30 acres, trails, all-year stream; \$250/two-night weekend, \$275/three-night weekend, \$75/night midweek with two-night minimum; \$500/week; \$1,500/month. Ten percent discount to all repeat guests. 647-3052.

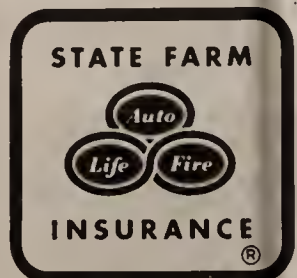


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**Cell Phone and Accessories:** Motorola flip with battery and wall charger. Also, extended talk time battery, leather case, and auto power cord. Call Al, 826-7540.

**Tuscany Hilltop B&B.** Beautifully restored farmhouse in Maremma National Park, delicious local food, beaches, sports, historical tours, cooking... Martine, (415) 648-2630.

**For Sale: Bellini Crib** (white, Marni) with mattress. Four years old, very good condition. \$400 or best offer. Karen, (415) 641-5003.

**Guitarist:** Finger-style folk/classical/blues guitarist (à la Renbourn, Jansch) seeks guitarist to play with on an informal basis. Vocals a plus. Call Dick at 647-0724.

**Charlie the Phone Guy.** Residence and business telephone systems, fax/modem lines, office-in-home. Dead phone jacks brought back to life! Separate jacks for roommates. Free estimates. Noe Valley resident. Call 641-8654.

**Artist Wants Used Brooms.** Will trade new for old. 773-8024.

**Garden Suite Short-Term Rental.** Noe Valley area with #24 bus at corner. Furnished three rooms, view, deck, rose garden. Private entrance. Quiet, cosy and very private. Perfect for guests that you don't have room for. (415) 826-1016.

**Housekeeper Available.** Part-time, experienced, references, reliable, meticulous, CDL. (415) 239-9265.

**Wanted: Non-Smoking, Employed** male roommate to share four-room Victorian with hardwood floors. \$485 per month plus half utilities. Call 826-5886, 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.

**Garage Wanted** for one car. Between 23rd and 29th, Dolores and Noe. (415) 282-2080.

**Studio with View and Parking.** Short- or long-term lease. Eureka/Noe Valley. (415) 826-1158.

**Garage for Rent.** \$160 per month. Available now. Ideal for boat, car, storage — or just stuff. Not for daily access. 641-7092.

**Fog City Dog** now accepting clients for canine exercise group. Noe Valley resident. Reasonable rates, senior discounts. Bonded. Lou, 824-9374.

**Stereo Repair:** Save time, money! Offering in-home repairs at reasonable rates. Formerly with Pacific Stereo, now serving the San Francisco community for 12 years. Evening/weekend appointments available. Thorough, conscientious, guarantee, references. Gene's Sound Service, 553-3751.

**Home and Office Cleaning.** Experienced, great references, reasonable rates. Elli, (650) 872-0906.

**Part-Time Bookkeeper.** Expert at organizing an office, plus high level of accuracy. References. 773-9867.

**Office Space for Rent.** 2nd and Mission. Shared office space in 15-work station environment. One to seven stations available at \$350 to \$600 per station. Credit check and deposit. (415) 675-0400.

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# CLAS ADS

**Help with Eating Disorders.** Therapy group has openings for women struggling with bulimia, anorexia, or compulsive overeating. Monday or Thursday evenings. Sandra Backovich, M.F.C.C. Certified Group Psychotherapist. (415) 921-3426.

**Infant Care.** Noe Valley mother with infant of 3 months seeks another infant to care for full-time in your home. Highly qualified: formal childcare experience, superior references, native speaker of English, CPR. Genuine love for children, mature, reliable. Catherine, (415) 285-7872.

**Piano Lessons for Kids.** Noe Valley-based musician with B.A. and M.M. in music and pedagogy accepting beginning students. 15 years' experience. Carla, (415) 648-3651.

**Health Systems of Eastern Traditions.** This workshop will explore basic healing concepts within the traditions of Buddhism, Hinduism, and Taoism, including descriptions of energy systems (chi, kundalini, prana, chakras), Vedic concepts, Tibetan healing, and moving meditation. Taught by Joell Hollowell. She has a Master of Intuitive Studies from the Academy of Intuitive Studies, and is a certified Integral Yoga teacher. Wednesday, 6 to 7:30 p.m., \$8. Integral Yoga Institute, 770 Dolores St. (415) 821-1117.

**Home and Office Cleaning.** Excellent references. Professional. Reasonable prices. Offering service seven days a week. For more details, call Cale En-Nadir, (415) 643-0894.

**Stop Worrying! All You Need Is Reiki.** Call Reiki Master Brett Bevell at (415) 522-2302 to experience or learn this ancient healing art. Sessions and teaching available now.

**Hot Flash! Midlife Women's Group** in Noe Valley. Meet with women your age (40s to 60s), supporting each other through the struggles, challenges, and joys of midlife. We are trailblazers and elders in training, redefining what aging means to us. Arlene Dumas, LCSW. 641-4553.

**Procrastination 101:** A workshop to help you get past blocks that keep you from achieving your goals, led by screenwriter Julie Oxendale. Sat., April 17, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The Writing Salon, (415) 642-9793; [www.writingsalons.com](http://www.writingsalons.com). \$75.

**Professional, Ethical Counseling.** Twenty years' experience. Clairvoyance, astrology, etc. Reasonable rates. Phone or in person. Free first session. Anna, (415) 826-7190.

**Housecleaning.** Experienced, references, responsible. Contact Nelma at (650) 742-0289; paging (415) 338-8372.

**Deep Relaxation Workshop.** Learn how to use deep relaxation in creative ways to release physical and mental tension, patterns of stress, as well as conserve energy in your daily life. This workshop will include an extended deep relaxation, visualization, breathing practices, and a short meditation. Tuesday, April 6, 6 to 7:30 p.m., \$8. Integral Yoga Institute, 770 Dolores St. (415) 821-1117.

**On Point: Midlife Is a Balancing Act!** Support group for women bridging the stresses of the middle generation. Find companionship, healing, renewal. Jennifer Feeley, M.A., M.F.C.C. (MFC35307). (415) 241-8860.

**Word Processing:** Manuscripts, theses, dissertations, tape transcription, editing. Joanne, 431-0603.

**Counseling: Start Your Healing Journey.** Gentle, practical individual and couples therapy by experienced M.F.C.C. intern. Sliding scale. Free 15-minute phone consultation. Lesbian/gay/bi/straight welcome. Noe Valley. Julie DePinna Arner, M.A., registered M.F.C.C. intern supervised and employed by Cate Potyten, M.F.C.C. Call (415) 882-1161.

**Yoga Sutras.** This four-week session on Yogic Paths to Freedom is based on *Patanjali's Yoga Sutras*. Required reading: *Yoga Sutras of Patanjali* (available at the Institute for \$16) Please register in advance. Tuesdays, beginning April 20, 6 to 7:30 p.m. \$32. Integral Yoga Institute, 770 Dolores St. (415) 821-1117.

**Sale for 1999.** One-Eyed Jacks is having its 1999 sale, April 1 to 30. 25 percent off everything in our collection. We offer 3,000 square feet of antiques, collectibles, and cool things. Bring this ad to validate for free latte at Zuni Cafe with over \$5 purchase. 1645 Market Street, between Gough and Franklin, across from Zuni Cafe.

**Housecleaning Specialist.** Penny from Heaven. References. 270-9164.

**Indian Music Concert.** Habib Khan is regarded as one of the premier sitar players in the country today. He is as much at ease with light classical and religious music as he is with pure classical rendering of ragas. Friday, April 30, 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. \$15. Integral Yoga Institute, 770 Dolores St. (415) 821-1117.

**Mac or iMac Computer? Need Help?** I can...help you clean up your computer, teach you how to get online and send e-mail, teach you how to surf the Web, help you build a web page, etc. I am the tech coordinator at a private elementary school. Evenings and weekends in your home. 641-7062.

**Introduction to Hatha Yoga.** For those who have never taken a yoga class. There will be discussion as well as practice of yoga postures, extended relaxation, and breathing practices. Bring a towel, loose-fitting clothing, and an empty stomach. Thursday, April 13, 6 to 7:30 p.m. \$8. Integral Yoga Institute, 770 Dolores St. (415) 821-1117.

**Secretarial Services.** Word processing, bookkeeping, all general office work. Computer/fax. Helene, (415) 334-9853.

**Fluoride, Chlorine, Cryptosporidium** water filtration systems. Sink, full house, and shower. 415-248-1869.

**Morgenstern & Son Hauling.** Dump runs. Discount for salvageables. Free estimates. Call 902-8026 anytime. Small job? Pager Nick, 560-3637.

**I Put People to Sleep,** but I don't take it personally. Experience the deep relaxation and therapeutic benefits of an Accupressure Massage. Eleven years of experience. Noe Valley office, sliding scale available. Margaret Medeiros, C.M.T. 550-8940.

**If You're Looking** for a professional housecleaner, you can count on me! Call Waleska at (415) 643-8820. Good references.

**Home Heating Specialist.** Warm air furnaces, ductwork, chimneys installed, replaced. Problem systems improved, quieted. Fifteen years serving Noe Valley. Licensed. Call Larry Fitzsimmons, 826-0308.

**Sunday Services.** The Integral Yoga Institute has Sunday services each week from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. We begin with some chanting, then a brief discussion on the spiritual aspects of yoga, a worship service, and conclude with a short meditation. All are welcome. 770 Dolores St. (415) 821-1117.

**Gardening.** Consultations, design, and renovations. Expert planting, pruning, and maintenance using organic methods. 626-1258.

**Medical Insurance.** Free quotes for individuals, families, and businesses. 'A' rated plans, Alternative Care, Blue Cross/Shield, Medicare Supplements, Long-Term Care Insurance. Let an expert assist you at no extra cost! Call Bill Hannant. 647-7012. License 0723231.

**Licensed Painter.** Small and large jobs. Interior and exterior. Also plaster repair. Please call Ed at 995-4666. License 497-214. Free estimates.

**Phil's Window Cleaning Service.** Reliable/courteous. Free estimates for residential/commercial. 668-8310.

**Furniture Wanted.** I need old and antique dressers, tables, desks, etc. Any condition. Paying cash. Karen, 647-6157.

**I Love Housework!** Thorough, reliable service, reasonable rates. Kate, 431-4383.

**Photography.** Portraits taken for groups or individuals of all ages. Public relations, parties, meetings, actor's headshots, etc. Jiro, (415) 346-4295.

**A Perfect Wedding or Commitment Ceremony** gift! Commissioned watercolors from \$85, plus tax. Specializing in houses, gardens, and views of San Francisco. Free consultation with no obligation. You'll see samples of my work and we'll discuss your idea for a painting. Call Susan Sternau at 285-0696.

**Writing, Editing, and Proofreading Assistance.** Noe Valley resident available to help with business, personal, or academic materials. Call Kimberly, 826-4696.

**House and Office Cleaning Available.** Good experience and references. Call Divina at 661-9245.

We would love to make our home in Noe Valley. My husband and I are looking to rent, but just until we find the perfect place to buy. Do you know of a month-to-month rental (studio is fine) that would be good? You or a friend that needs responsible house-sitting for two weeks or a month? Someone who wants to sell to us as a couple or TIC? (We are pre-approved and ready for a quick or slow close.) We are clean, quiet, both past 35, no pets, with great local references and credit. Please call Sandy Bassett at (415) 775-2550.

**Sililled, Caring Psychotherapy** to heal emotional wounds, discover new directions, revitalize relationships. Jennifer Feeley, M.A., M.F.C.C. (MFC35307), specializing in depression, creative blocks, career and midlife transitions. Sliding scale. (415) 241-8860.

**Ayurvedic Secrets of Nutrition** for body, mind, and spirit. Ayurveda is the science of life; it is a truly ancient holistic health system from India, and a sister science to yoga. Join Ghandharva Sauls to discover the three qualities of food, three types of digestive imbalances, and 10 principles of a healthy diet. Learn how to make changes to your own diet. Ghandharva has a private practice in New Jersey and New York and is on the faculty of the New York Coen Center. Sunday, April 25, 1 to 5 p.m. \$20. Integral Yoga Institute, 770 Dolores St. (415) 821-1117.

**Artists/Performers/Writers** at all levels: An ongoing support group, workshops, and individual consultations designed to enhance your creative life are available in Noe Valley. Call Robert Ressler, Ph.D., (415) 289-2212.

**Flash Fiction:** Writing the Short-Short Story, a one-day Saturday workshop led by poet and fiction writer Kim Addonizio. Saturday, April 24, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The Writing Salon, (415) 642-9793; [www.writingsalons.com](http://www.writingsalons.com). \$75.

**Substance Abuse Counseling.** Bernal Heights location. Confidential. Compassionate. Certified. Eric Enner, M.B.A., C.A.D.C. (415) 824-4541.

**English Lessons** (all ages) and tutoring (all subjects) for K-5th grade. Credentialed teacher: Teresa L. (415) 863-1356.

**Proofreader Wanted.** Experienced, for medical deposition transcripts. Must have daytime availability and live in Noe Valley. \$12.50 per hour. 844-0453.

**Carpentry, Ceramic Tile, Drywall,** decks, finish carpentry, hardwood floor refinishing, painting. Reasonable prices, good references, free estimates. Chlil Brad, 627-4065.

**Housecleaning.** Experienced. Excellent references. Own car. \$15/hour. (650) 992-0538, Gil.

**Sililled, Caring Psychotherapy** to heal emotional wounds, discover new directions, revitalize relationships. Jennifer Feeley, M.A., M.F.C.C. (MFC35307), specializing in depression, creative blocks, career and midlife transitions. Sliding scale. (415) 241-8860.

**Housecleaner Available.** 12 years experience. Wonderful references. English speaking, own car. Chlil Rosane at 885-2215.

**Gentle Yoga.** Simple stretches, Yoga postures, deep relaxation, and breathing techniques to gently stretch and strengthen the body. Beginners welcome. Bring a towel, loose clothing, and empty stomach. Sundays, 9:30 to 11 a.m. \$8 (\$5 for first class and seniors). Integral Yoga Institute, 770 Dolores St. (415) 821-1117.

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**Vacation Room Rental**, upper Noe Valley. Clean, safe, comfortable. Ideal for visiting family. (415) 821-4890.

**Furniture Restoration.** Complete antique and modern furniture restoration. Careful European craftsmanship. Expert refinishing. Custom upholstery. Caning. Veneering. Quality repairing. Competitive prices. Impressive portfolio and references. Free estimate, pickup, and delivery. Call Boris, (415) 587-3416.

**Solution-Focused Therapy** works in relatively brief agreements (12 sessions or fewer, possibly renewable), building on your self-knowledge. My skills provide questions that help you define goals, release obstacles, and clarify or change your individual process. (A modified version is offered to couples.) I'm a well-aged former educator, perceptive, intuitive, flexible, anti-racist, well-respected; who has seen heard and experienced a broad range of life's challenges (25 years as a counselor). Love my work! Upper Glen Park, San Francisco: parking, buses, BART. Jeanne Adleman, M.A., (415) 585-0666.

**Property Owners!** Thinking about remodeling or adding to a building or constructing a new building? Get the input your project needs from an experienced architect. Call Mike Hager at 285-7409. In Noe Valley since 1981; 27 years experience. Free initial consultation.

**Yerba Buena Ayurveda.** Full-service Ayurvedic center. Enhance your health and well-being. Dietary and lifestyle consultations. Massage. Herbal steams. Classes and workshops. Gift certificates. Call (415) 440-0109.

**Ixtapa, Mexico.** Two-bedroom, two-bath bungalow available all year near beach and hotels. \$300/week. (415) 641-5636.

**Clean & Natural.** Environmentally friendly cleaning. Same day service. Call Simone, (415) 303-9865.

**Guided Writing Marathon:** Creative writing practice up the Wazoo! Led by longtime *Noe Valley Voice* editor/writer Jane Underwood. Sat., April 24, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The Writing Salon, (415) 642-9793; [www.writingsalons.com](http://www.writingsalons.com). \$75.

**Trees, shrubs, hedges.** Professional arborist, neighborhood resident. Twenty+ years experience. Free estimates, reasonable rates. Call with any garden questions. Bill Squire, 826-6160.



**Hauling.** Schlepper Bros. Fast, fair, and fantastic. Yogic, caring, and brave. Y2K, sustainability activist. 824-4214.

**Bed and Breakfast in Noe Valley.** Parents or friends coming, and no room for them? Have them stay in a lovely two-room apartment with private entrance and bathroom, fireplace, kitchen, antique furnishings. Convenient to 24th Street and J-Church line. Oliver House, (415) 695-0700.

**Dustbusters.** Excellent housecleaning service. Reference available. Call us for a free estimate. Andreia and Karen, (415) 242-5598.

**Telephone wiring and jacks** for your home or business; 37 years of experience. Call Gene, 826-8419.

**Body Work** by Bruce. Noe Valley/Calistoga-based massage therapist now taking clients; specializing in deep tissue and therapeutic massage. Licensed. Has space/can come to you. (415) 648-3651.

### Come visit us on-line!

Each month the Class Ads and top news stories are posted on our web site for your enjoyment.

[www.noevalleyvoice.com](http://www.noevalleyvoice.com)



## CLAS ADS

**Guitar Lessons.** Noe Valley, Bernal Heights. Former Pickle Family Circus music director, composer of Academy Award-winning film. B.A. Berklee, 20 years teaching experience. All ages, beginners welcome. Fun, reasonable. Mark, 282-8244.

**Walkin Waggin Pet and Plant Care** by Carla. Noe Valley resident 10 years. Love and attention for all pets: walks, play, and/or sitting. Health care, feeding, and hygiene. Services for all animals (fish, birds, and horses, too). Responsible, mature, fun, and smart. Animal caretaker/owner with lifetime experience. References! 415-648-3651.

**Learn Spanish** with us! Call WEEKEND en español! (415) 923-0754.

**Noe's Nest.** Located in the heart of Noe Valley, your home away from home. A number of uniquely decorated rooms with private bath, TV, VCR, CD players, telephone (free local calls), and voice mail. Some have private entrances; views; decks; working fireplaces; steam room; hot tub and aquariums. Let's not forget the Brooklyn Breakfast Buffet. Price range \$95 to \$160. Parents, children, and friends warmly welcomed. (415) 821-0751.

**Flute Lessons.** Noe Valley-based flutist with B.A. and M.M. in music and pedagogy, accepting students of all ages and levels. Fifteen years experience. Carla, (415) 648-3651.

**Looking for a 14-Year-Experienced,** reliable, bonded housecleaner? Stop your search! Call KJ now at (415) 285-3014.

**Books—Books—Books Bought!** I come to you. Call L. J. 469-9338 (46-year San Francisco resident).

**Word Processing** (expertise: legal). Tape transcription, editing, mailings, repetitive letters, resumes, letter composition, complaint letters. Phone-indictation system. Dena Reiner, (415) 821-4661.

**Goals Coaching Works** for: financial security, higher education, career advancement, lifestyle changes, entrepreneurs, right livelihood, balanced living, spiritual practices. Learn to align values with desires. Break through limiting blocks. Gain clarity and release creativity. Reasonable rates. Private sessions. Peer training for partners and groups. (415) 695-9066.

**Mobile Notary Public.** Fluent Spanish. Evenings, weekends, and holidays. Jackie, (415) 467-3467.

**Save This Advertisement!** David's Reliable Housecleaning. Call for appointment, (415) 282-4047.

**Meditation Workshop.** A practical workshop that will enable you to begin earnest meditation on your own. A clear understanding of what meditation is, how it works, and how to make it an enjoyable daily experience will be presented. Tuesday, April 20, 6 to 7:30 p.m. \$8. Integral Yoga Institute, 770 Dolores St. (415) 821-1117.

**Stressless Housecleaning** . . . because life's hectic enough. Superior quality. Customized cleaning. Free estimates. Call Jeanine, 564-2877.

**Need an Extra Bedroom/Bath** for visiting relatives or friends? Rent ours. No frills. Low cost. 282-2550.

**Song Lyric Writing Workshop:** "Giving voice to melody," led by Doug Konecky, whose songs have been recorded by Patti LaBelle, Glen Campbell, Barbara Mandrell, and Anita Baker. Saturday, May 1, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The Writing Salon, (415) 642-9793; [www.writingsalons.com](http://www.writingsalons.com). \$75.

**Piano Lessons** for children and adults. Beginning and intermediate levels. Classical music and theory instruction from a patient, experienced teacher in Noe Valley. Elva, (415) 285-5769.

**Quaint "Victorian Garden" B&B** near 26th and Sanchez. Private and ground level, living room, fireplace, bathroom, bedroom with queen-size bed, office nook, flower-filled patio/garden, laundry facilities, phone, sound system, cable TV, plentiful breakfast items. Apartment is lovely and quiet. Two night minimum. Call 206-0202.

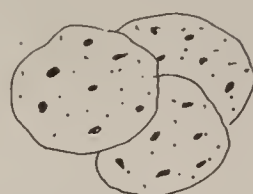
**Composting** is the process of turning kitchen scraps and/or yard waste into fresh, fertile soil. Yahoo! Compost delivers worm bins, composters, and red wiggler worms to help you compost! Yahoo! Call the worm line: (415) 460-WORM.

**Bill's Housecleaning.** Stoves, walls washed, hardwood floors cleaned and waxed, windows, bathroom walls, tile, and fixtures. Call anytime. Bill, (415) 351-1767.

**Superlative Word Processing.** Experienced professional. B.A. English, M.S.W. Understandable advice. Business, medical, academic, legal, resumes, manuscripts. Expert editing. Fax machine. Laser printing. Good rates. Call anytime. 824-7736.

**Drop-in Hatha Yoga.** Learn yoga postures, deep relaxation, and breathing techniques. Beginners welcome. Bring a towel, loose clothing, and empty stomach. Classes daily. Phone 824-9600 for the class schedule. \$8 (\$5 for first class and seniors) Integral Yoga Institute, 770 Dolores St.

**Living Tai Chi Chuan of Noe Valley.** Unique approach for holistic balance. Beginners Tuesday and Thursday, 6 p.m. \$5 introduction, Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez. Friday morning, Douglass Park, 10 a.m. to noon, Douglass at Clipper. Chris Sequeira, practicing since 1973. (650) 756-6857; (415) 773-8185.



**Handyman/Carpenter.** Repair a door, hang a kitchen cabinet, remodel a closet, add a room, build a fence or a deck, or even trim a tree. I'm skilled and do good work at reasonable prices. Robert, 550-4055.

**Kirtan/Chanting.** Kirtan is chanting of spiritual mantras, sounds, songs, and names in the Sanskrit language. Accompanied by drums and other rhythm instruments, kirtan is the joyful spiritual path. Fridays, April 9 and 23, 7:30 to 9:30 p.m., by donation. Integral Yoga Institute, 770 Dolores St. (415) 821-1117.

**Cleaninghouse.** Home, office, apartment, and apartment building maintenance cleaning. Regular, one-time. Moving in, moving out? Spring cleaning! Roger Miller, 664-0513.

**Pet Care.** Does Rover need a pet sitter? Exercise? A ride to the vet? Positively Pets can help! Expert care for all pets. Ten years experience. Bonded. References. Senior discounts. 647-2463.

**Transform Your Jungle** into a paradise. Pruning, cleanups, planting, lawns, irrigation, maintenance. Call Jorge at 826-7840 for free estimates. Remember, it's pruning time.

**Piano Lessons in Noe Valley:** Learn piano with patient, supportive teacher. Lessons tailored to individual goals. Music degree and 20 years of teaching experience. Ear training, theory, classical or popular repertoire, MIDI lab. Barbara Barnett, 648-1007.

**Mother/Baby Yoga.** This six-week class is for new mothers and pre-crawling newborns, it includes gentle stretching, chanting, breathing, deep relaxation, sharing, and discussion. Pre-registration is required. Please call Madhuri at (415) 821-1117. Wednesdays, beginning April 7, 9:30 to 11 am. \$48. Integral Yoga Institute, 770 Dolores St.

**Liz's Unique Bed and Breakfast.** Old world charm at affordable rates. Guests will awaken to the fragrance of homemade delicacies and fresh ground coffee. Call Liz, a gracious and knowledgeable hostess. (415) 648-2515.

**Rental Short-Term:** Noe Valley view location; two guest suites with furnished living/bedroom areas, private baths, private phone lines, private entrances; shared kitchen/laundry; ideal for visiting family/friends, business travelers; weekly, monthly rates. 285-7189.

**Gourmet Vegetarian Cuisine** delivered to your doorstep. Diverse menus, naturally low in fat, cholesterol, and salt. Treat yourself right! Gift certificates available. For a monthly menu call Jane, 826-2133; [www.sirius.com/~scottstf/jane.html](http://www.sirius.com/~scottstf/jane.html).

**Tax Preparation** for individuals, financial services for travelers and the distracted. Enrolled agent licensed to represent clients before the IRS. Reasonable rates. \$10 discount with this ad. (415) 695-1819. Gretchen Beck, E.A.

**Housecleaning Since 1979.** Reasonable rates. Call Richard, 255-0389.

### How to Place a Class Ad in the Noe Valley Voice

**It's easy.** You type or print the text of your ad, multiply the number of words by **30¢ a word**, and send us a check or money order for the total amount.

Mail your ad and check, made out to the *Noe Valley Voice*, so that we receive it by the **15th of the month** before the month you'd like to advertise in.

The address is Noe Valley Voice Class Ads, 1021 Sanchez St., San Francisco, CA 94114.

Even if the ad is a renewal from a prior issue, please send us the full text of your ad. Also note that phone numbers, including area code, count as one word.

**10 for 10 Discount:** The *Noe Valley Voice* publishes a news edition 10 months a year. (We're on vacation in January and August.) If you place the *same* class ad in 10 issues, you are entitled to a 10 percent discount. To figure your cost, deduct 10 percent from the total amount due for 10 issues.

The next *Noe Valley Voice* will be distributed on May 5. **The deadline for May 1999 Class Ads is April 15.**

Sorry, the *Voice* is unable to accept Class Ads by phone or e-mail at this time. But there's one consolation: The ads are displayed on our web site at no charge: [www.noevalleyvoice.com](http://www.noevalleyvoice.com).

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## and now for the RUMORS behind the news

By Mazook

THE NOE VALLEY Democratic Club is organizing an all-out effort to march to City Hall with a wish list for Noe Valley.

Demo Club president Dave Monks says, "All the politicians come to talk to our group and ask for our endorsements, so it's time for us to ask them to help us."

The Demos have invited representatives from all the prominent neighborhood groups to come speak to the club. After they're finished, they will summarize our common agenda (and grievances) and present them to Mayor Brown *et al.*

The club has already heard from Alison Pence from the Advocates for Upper Noe Recreation Center. She and her group want to improve the children's play area, field, and other facilities at the park located at Day and Sanchez streets.

Next in the series was Dorthe Deubler and Debra Neiman, who speak for the Noe Valley Neighborhood Parks Improvement Association (NVNPIA). They presented ideas on how to fund improvements at our two other parks, Noe Courts and Douglass Park. More on that later.

Monks says that the Demos' April 14 meeting (7:30 p.m. at the Noe Valley Ministry) will feature speakers from the Noe Valley Merchants Association, who will add their two cents. You can bet the merchants will bring up the *p* word (parking).

According to Dave, the May meeting might well feature the Upper Noe Neighbors, who are becoming more active. UNN pres Vicki Rosen says the group has elected new officers (v.p., Marybeth Wallace, secretary Jason Kletter, treasurer Karen Powell) and stepped up its meeting schedule. Now they will be meeting at the Upper Noe Rec Center on the fourth Thursday of every month at 7:30 p.m.

At their next meeting, April 22, Vicki says the group will be signing up new recruits, discussing plans for Upper Noe Rec, and naming committee heads. "We'll also talk about special events. We want to get our neighbors involved," she says.

☎ ☎ ☎

GETTING INVOLVED is exactly what Dorthe Deubler, Debra Neiman, and Krista Keegan are all about. They orga-



**Literary Awards Dinner:** Tracy Wynne and Susan Talbott (from left) of Cover to Cover on 24th Street join Dennis Ronberg in congratulating Anne Milkie of James Lick School at the March 20 "Otter Dinner" sponsored by the Northern California Children's Booksellers Association. Milkie received a \$500 grant, which she'll use to add Spanish fiction titles to a library for students in James Lick's Spanish immersion program. Photo by Cammie Toloui

nized the NVNPIA in August of '98, got nonprofit status, came up with wish lists for both Noe Courts and Douglass Park, worked with the Rec and Park people, and went to the locals for funding...all of which resulted in real improvements.

The first thing they got was a porta-potty for Noe Courts. As you Noe Courts users know, the bathrooms there have been in disrepair and closed since the late '50s (make that the 1850s). Word is, the gardener was the most grateful.

Within the next month or so, Rec and Park plumbers will install new drinking fountains at both Noe Courts and Douglass Playground, thanks to the NVNPIA.

According to Dorthe, the Friends of the Parks matched the \$3,500 raised by our groups. "We got \$400 from the East & West of Castro Club; Noe Courts Coalition [the dog proponents] contributed \$875; Zephyr Realty gave us \$1,750, and the balance was from an adamantly anonymous \$500 donor," she says.

The drinking fountain at Noe Courts will have a spigot on top for humans and a bowl near the base for dogs.

"We've also been working on getting the Noe Courts sandbox a bench with a back and arms—a great help, especially to moms holding little babies—and we just learned that [local realtor] B.J. Droubi has donated money for the bench."

The group's current wish list includes acquiring a modest sum of money for a bulletin board to hang in the clubhouse at Douglass Park, and for a freestanding one at Noe Courts. "Another high priority should be all-new playground equipment

for Douglass, some of which dates back to the fifties," she says, "and which Rec and Park has no plans to update."

She's been told that it would cost \$350,000 to \$500,000 to replace the playground equipment through the city, "but we hope that we could have a community building effort, which would reduce the cost to about \$100,000." You go, girl.

☎ ☎ ☎

THE SUDDEN CLOSING of Crystal Market on the corner of Church Street and Cesar Chavez at the end of January was both a surprise and a mystery to many.

The market's owner sold his lease to Celia Sack and her partner Paula Harris, who are busy building the Noe Valley Pet Company and Dog Walking Service, scheduled to open in May.

They currently operate a dog walking service called Go-Dog-Go from their house over the hill in Eureka Valley. Now they are expanding into dog, cat, and bird supplies, and even antiquarian prints of animals and birds.

"Paula started the dog walking busi-

ness about a year and a half ago, and business got very good," says Celia. "I left my job at the Pacific Book Auction [she is a specialist in rare books] to join in the business. I now make the same money in less time, doing something I love."

Paula lived on Church and 26th before moving over the hill, and she's "delighted to get back to my old neighborhood."

A bit of history on the Crystal Market has been provided by the building's owner, Chuck Fadel. He says the building was built in 1880 as a livery stable. "We were doing some repairs," says Chuck, "and we found some horseshoes in the crawl space." Sometime around 1915, the livery stable closed and a butcher shop opened.

Speaking of history, the East & West Club will be hosting Noe Valley History Day at the Noe Valley Library in June, and would like you to loan any memorabilia of the neighborhood you might have. Contact Paul Kantus of East & West at 647-3753.

☎ ☎ ☎

HISTORY is what the *Glen Park Courier* is, with the publication of its March 1999 issue. *Courier* editor Jacquelyn "Lyn" Estrella is moving to the East Bay, and her staff is disbanding after two years of serving the Glen Park neighborhood.

An odd parting shot came from copy editor Bob Vanderheiden, who was quoted in the paper as saying, "The *Courier* has more spark, more life, than other nearby neighborhood newspapers. Those Noe Valley vanity rags are too full of egotistical ramblings and pompous poetry."

Thanks, neighbor.

☎ ☎ ☎

TOP OF THE POPS at Streetlight Records is a local group called the Latin Playboys, with their inaugural CD, *Dos*. According to Streetlighter Art Casares, this Los Lobos spin-off has "an eccentric Tex-Mex style in a very abstract sort of way." Close behind in sales, says Art, is Van Morrison's new disc, *Back on Top*.

Down at Aquarius Records (Valencia

Continued on Next Page

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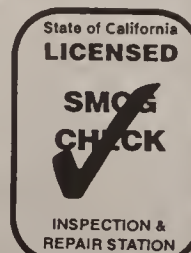
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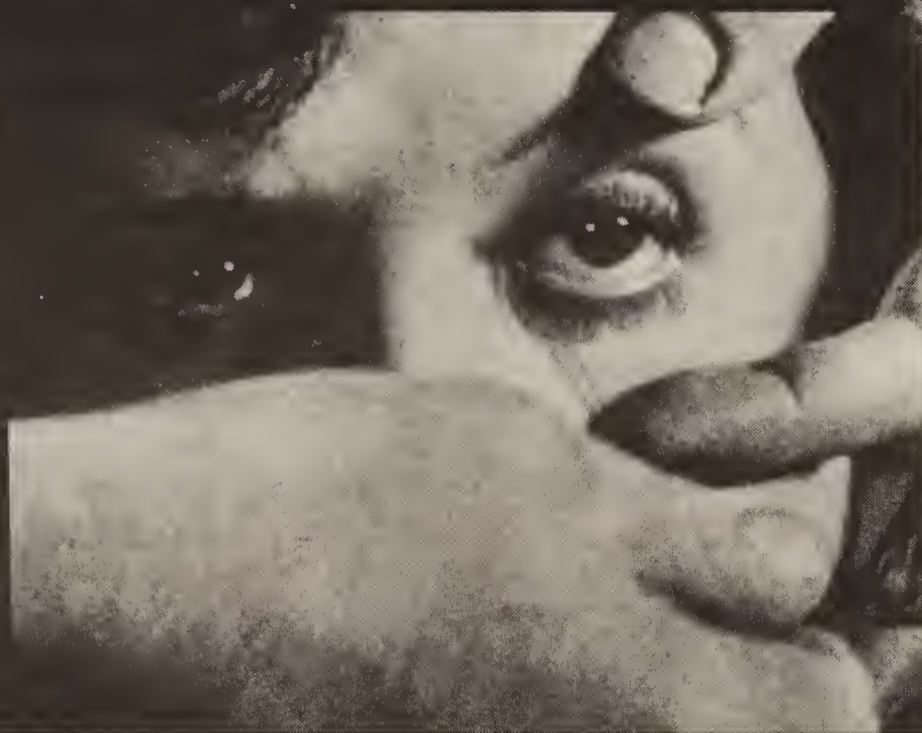
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# LASERCINEMA



## RUMORS

and 22nd), the hottest group is a band out of Georgia called Olivia Tremor Control, whose album is titled *Black Foliage*.

On the video scene, Video Wave on Castro Street reports that your favorite movie rental is *Living Out Loud*, starring Danny DeVito and Holly Hunter. Over at Video West on Church, Adam Sandler's *The Waterboy* is in high demand.

Brian Dunleavy from 21st Century Video on 24th Street says *Bulworth*, starring Warren Beatty, "is flying out the door." Brian adds, "This politically incorrect far-farical comedy is one of Beatty's best."

For those of you who prefer to read, Cover to Cover Booksellers says their current nonfiction bestseller is *The Spirit Catches You and You Fall Down*, by Anne Fadiman. This is the story of the culture shock of the Hmong people who lived on the border of Cambodia and Vietnam and came to America after the war.

On the fiction side, your choice is J.K. Rowling's *Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone*, a story about a little boy's mysterious invitation to a sorcerer's school.

THAT'S IT FOR NOW. But before I go, I want to remind you to support the city's arts and cultural organizations by adding a donation to your April property tax bill. All donations, no matter how small, will be gratefully accepted. Last year \$150,000 was shared citywide. That's thirty. □

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# THE NOE VANITY VOICE

# Noe Valley Advances into The Mission, Valencia Falls

**DATELINE PRISTINA, KOKOMO:** Troops loyal to Supreme Commander Noah Munnydown captured the vital Valencia Corridor today, as part of Noe Valley's long-running campaign to annex the oil-rich Mission District.

Defeated ethnic Valencians threw down their superburritos and paid homage to Commander Munnydown, strewing garlands of rental units at his feet. "You better hand over everything," warned Munnydown, "because I have two backup offers marching down Liberty Street right this minute."

Meanwhile, air strikes were stepped up in Eureka Valley, by order of Field Marshall Marshall Fields.

In a related story, there was dancing on 24th Street when word of Glen Park's surrender to Generalissimo Lola Petrillo reached the Juiced for Fun Bar. Generalissimo Petrillo became the first military commander in recorded history to cross the treacherous mountain passes which for centuries have formed the boundary between civilization and Glen Park, on a bicycle. "We've had our eye on that BART station for a long time," said Petrillo, gesturing down First of April Boulevard (formerly Diamond Street).

In a ridiculous story, the Diamond Heights Surfers Association has an-

*Continued on Next Page*



**Time Travel Works:** One of the *Voice's* first subscribers, 20-year-old Scottish transplant Violet Kennedy, sent us this snapshot from 1898, saying she especially enjoyed our story about the upcoming earthquake (and fire). *Photo by Her Future Grandson Charles*

Photo by Her Future Grandson Charles

# Total Ban on Coffee on 24th Street

At the request of a local neighborhood association, the city has extended the year-old coffee ban in stores to private homes. Twenty-fourth Street residents will no longer be allowed to brew or consume caffeine at home.

"We wanted Noe Valley to go back to being the sleepy little village it once was, and there were just too many people making and drinking coffee on 24th Street," said Rusty "Red" Zinger, president of the Constant Comments of Castro Club.

To enforce the new law, San Francisco's Coffee Cops, a lesser-known arm of the city's vice squad, conducted an early-morning raid of kitchens from Dolores to Diamond Street, rounding up over 200 suspects and confiscating beans, measuring scoops, Creamora, thermoses, and other coffee paraphernalia.

"They busted me for only having a lid, for God's sake!" said Martha of the 3800 block of 24th Street. "Okay I confess, I had a pound of Colombian," said Martha's brother.

Police Captain Ken Starrbuck said there had been so many infractions, he'd asked California Governor Earl Gray to send in

*Continued on Next Page*



**Please blink and clean your glasses before reading further.**

**OK**



**Mee-Ouch!** The Church Street poop protester has struck again—this time indoors, in the middle of the night...and in a cat box. After finding the tiny protest signs in the overflowing feline leftovers, embarrassed owner Esme Katsky promised to do a better job of scooping away.

Photo by Kitkat Barrske

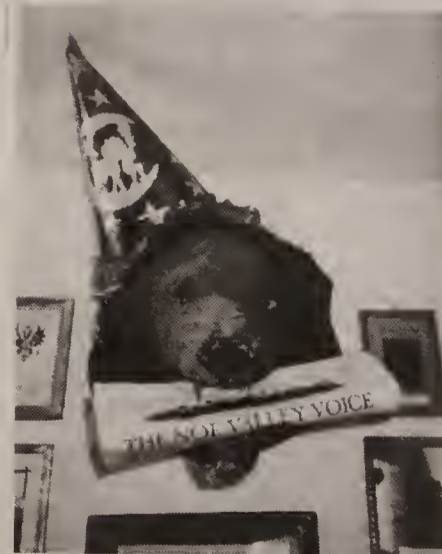
# Muni Opens VIP Lounge for J-Church Riders

Finally, some pampering for weary Muni patrons: On April 1, the city's bus system unveiled a VIP travelers' lounge, open to all full-fare J-Church riders.

The luxurious open-air lounge, located in a converted bus shelter at 24th and Church, features padded flip-up seats, safety glass, a no-host telephone, a framed Muni map, copies of *Awake!*, and a life and disability insurance representative. The kiosk has also been equipped with a coffee vending machine offering a choice of cream and sugar, cream only, sugar only, black, or hot chocolate. An assortment of snacks, including Little Debbie's Devil Squares, can be purchased from a uniformed hostess, sponsored by the Chubb Group of Big Companies.

"They also have a schedule on the wall, which is comforting since it tells us that the bus might come at some point," said frequent rider Swami Conveydapeople.

To qualify for VIP status, riders must show proof of payment of Muni's new



**Beware of Grizzlies** bearing neighborhood news. This bruin obviously likes to sink his teeth into the latest stories in the *Noe Valley Voice*. Photo by Ursula Bearske

Photo by Ursula Bearske

Full Fare™ (\$5), which includes a transfer good for two hours. Holders of Real Fast™ Passes will also be admitted to the lounge on a first-come, first-served basis.

"We also will let the VIPs use their cell phones and bring in as many carry-on bags as they can fit under their seat, if they get one," said Muni Chief Running Late.

In other transit developments, to improve passenger relations on the 24-Divisadero, Muni consultants have developed a series of games to make the ride go more smoothly, such as "The Sardine Squeeze," "Goo on the Seat," "Find the Psycho," "Whose Hand Is That, Anyway?" and "Count the Cows." □



## Noe Uses War Heads in This Story

Continued from Page 1

nounced an unfriendly takeover by Noe Valley DotCom, a high-tech firm headquartered in Noe Valley South, formerly Silicon Valley. Diamond Heights CEOs Jan and Dean remarked, "We had no choice but to accept Noe Valley DotCom's terms. They gave our recycling center an offer we couldn't re-use."

On the far eastern front, bombs are continuing to rain down on Pomeranian strongman Slob Milosevic, who has re-

mained steadfast in his refusal to go outside. Meanwhile, Ambassador Madeleine "The Body" Albright demanded asylum in Maui for the more than 10,000 Kurds and Wheys fleeing the spider by the tuffet.

Continued Indefinitely

You have been reading this for 42 minutes. Are you sure you don't want to go get a snack now?

Nachos

M&Ms

Oreos



**Be a Deer** and bring me the newspaper. Identified only as Jane Doe No. 5, this Voice subscriber was tracked down at a local stag party. Photo by Fawn Hall

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## What Is Sex? Noe Valley Tells All

By Mr. and Mrs. Robinson

The Voice has learned that President Bill Clinton's lawyers conducted a poll in Noe Valley during the early days of the Monica Lewinsky scandal. The survey, disguised as an L. Ron Hubbard flier, was distributed in the laundromat at the corner of Church and 24th on April 1, 1998.

Of the 100,000 people doing their laundry, 469 took the time to fill out the questionnaire. To the relief of the White House legal team, the views on sex held by residents in this liberal stronghold almost exactly mirrored the president's. This information was later used to mount Clinton's successful impeachment defense.

Here are some high points from the survey, which the Voice recently obtained via the Freedom of Information About Sex Act. Take a look at what your neighbors had to say.

### 1. Which of the following falls within your definition of "sex"?

- A. Backing into a parking spot on 24th Street while someone feeds the meter. (28%)
- B. Finding a parking spot on 24th Street. (52%)
- C. Having the clerk at Bell Market load my groceries into the trunk. (13%)
- D. Riding on the J-Church when it couples with another car. (89%)
- E. Coupling on the J-Church when it hits another car. (98%)

### 2. Where's the best place to meet a potential partner in Noe Valley?

- A. Good Vibrations after a "loving discipline" seminar. (48%)
- B. The pet grooming place across from Noe Courts. (3%)
- C. The shoplifter photo display on the door of Just for Fun. (26%)

- D. The baked goods table at St. Philip's carnival. (2%)
- E. The bulk food room at Real Foods. (79%)

### 3. What is the thing that satisfies you most during sex?

- A. Finding a two-bedroom apartment for \$900. (78%)
- B. Sipping a half-decaf, nonfat latte from Martha & Bros. (69%)
- C. Watching a videotape of Celine Dion tripping at the Grammys. (99%)
- D. Seeing the officers of Friends of Noe Valley pied by the Yuppie Eradication Project. (100%)
- E. Eating fig bread from the Noe Valley Bakery. (82%)

### 4. If you were accused of infidelity, what would you do first?

- A. Sort through my bag of clothes going to the dry cleaner's. (2%)
- B. Deny having had sex with "that ice skater, Miss Lipinski." (1%)
- C. Pack up the minivan (don't forget the double-stroller) and head for Mexico. (76%)
- D. Have one last cigarette at the Rat and Raven. (13%)
- E. Take my dog to the park and let him run off the leash. (Hell, my reputation's screwed anyway.) (8%)

### 5. What is your favorite sexual position or location?

- A. The missionary position—in the cemetery at Mission Dolores, of course. (3%)
- B. Anywhere I can't hear those whining J-Church cars. (51%)
- C. In the back seat of the 48-Quintara. (3%)
- D. In the bulk food room at Real Foods. (43%)

### 6. What is your preferred method of birth control?

- A. Walking past Natural Resources in the morning when the mothers-to-be are waiting for it to open. (24%)
- B. Checking out the housing prices in front of B.J. Droubi's. (24%)
- C. I don't practice birth control—that's why I have a minivan. (41%)
- D. Taking a close look at a sidewalk sushi display. (3%)
- E. Same-sex marriage. (8%)

### 7. How many sex partners have you had in the past month?

- A. None. (Um, does kissing my dog on the lips count?) (6%)
- B. None. (I'm married.) (43%)
- C. One. (And it was a damn good parking spot.) (18%)
- D. Two (including the J-Church). (32%)
- E. None of your business (that's between me and Mrs. Clinton). (1%)



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driving themselves through the Breda streets at dawn looking for a place to  
park the Honda,  
fortysomething birthmothers burning to nurse wherever I damned well feel like it  
who double income and bifocaled and microbrewed sipped non-smoking decaf  
shawarmas under the recessed torchieres of microwave condo balconies floating  
across the heads of the street sheet sellers  
who bored their therapists with closing costs 401K carpal severence sewer tax DVD hot  
flash hydroponics balsamic polenta and wine, mine, gimme, me, *WHINE*  
who waited in line online with cell phones in the corner pocket—ring!—at  
Walgreens—ring!—at Laughing Meditation—ring!—it's for me! me! me!  
who sent food back to the kitchen who demanded one-hour service who expected  
a cash refund

*Whine*

who saw the saviour at Savor whose speed-dial says Eric Millie Chloe  
who smoked a cigar on the bench at Small Frys who drove up on the sidewalk to make a  
U-turn who taught their toddler how to count on the ATM at rush hour  
who said "save a tree" when someone offered them a paper bag  
whose Valentine vegetable seven bucks steamed carrot seemed worth it at the time  
who ached for Star Bakery Star Magic Cork n Bottle Needle's Eye Noble Frankfurter  
Wooly Mammoth Bud's Patch County Panos' Acme Metal Spinning Works Cafe

The world is holy! The socks are holy!  
The bagel is holy! The colander is holy!  
The doughnut is happy!  
The happy donut is holy!

Holy the statues in Xela's! Holy the water from Calistoga!  
Holy the rat and holy the raven!  
Holy the piercings of the children in the bike lane!  
Holy the tinsel of the merchants! Holy the hayride!  
Holy the hemp! Holy the Reagan in the window!  
Holy the wooden heel! Holy the miracle bottom-of-the-shoe powders!  
Holy the smoothies, the Zoloft, the California roll!  
Holy the miniature Reese cups at Sun Valley Dairy!  
Holy the Herb's burger!

When I'm dead  
bury me please  
in two fully loaded  
SUVs

—Howlin' Doug, Howlin' Sal, and Howlin' Karol

## Wild Parents of Noe Valley To Be Filmed on Dolores

By Cherry-Head Sal and  
Canary-Wing Karol

Noe Valley filmmaker Frances Ford Fellini, best-known for her daring bird exposé *The Wild Parrots of Telegraph Hill*, has launched her new project, the long-awaited *Wild Parents of Noe Valley*.

Fellini is currently scouting locations and has asked neighborhood residents to be on the lookout for the colorful flock. "You can't miss them—they smoke," said Fellini, taking a drag off her caesar salad with chicken. "They also like Tasty Cakes."

As most Noe Valley residents know, the band has often been seen sitting at their Macintoshes in the palms on Dolores Street or barbecuing suet on the rooftop of Rooftop TV Antenna Repair School on Eureka Street. Occasionally they are spotted flying in a jumbo jet over Noe Valley. Their calls — "Pretty boy" and "Yo-ho-ho and a bottle of rum"—are most commonly conducted on cell phones. Some neighbors have complained about their constant chatter, as well as about the rude behavior of their children, frequently observed deseeding the field at Upper Noe Wrecked Center.

Polly Wannacracker, also known as "The Friend of the Parents," has been training and feeding the flock for the past 40 years, mostly in front of SaMore on 24th Street and Hungry Eric's on Church Street. "I coax them out with licorice and action videos," she said.

However, she asked people not to over-feed either the kids or adults, "because they are getting spoiled, and they've forgotten how to shop for food on their own." □

## No More Coffee!

Continued from Page 1

troops to help fight the War on Grind.

"We can't allow double lattes to fall into the wrong hands," said Starrbuck, sipping from a cup of Sleepytime at Lovejoy's Tea Total Room. "Kids start young, maybe a cup of warm milk with a few drops of coffee and sugar. Before you know it, they've moved on to half-caf, half-jolt, extra foam, chocolate sprinkles. Pretty soon they're drinking triple shots."

According to Starrbuck, many local caffeine addicts have taken their habit underground. And illegal perculatoriums have sprung up throughout Noe Valley. "We've found Melitta filters buried in compost piles," said Starrbuck's wife Spinella. "We booked 17 Mr. Coffees into the evidence room just yesterday."

Capt. Starrbuck said he'd observed

## PONY EXPRESS

### Remembering Y1K

Editor:

There's been such a flap about all the machines going haywire in 2000, that, as an oldtimer in Noe Valley, I thought I'd better remind everybody about what we went through here in 999.

First of all, we didn't have computers then, so mostly we worried that the beads on abacuses would stick or the markings we made on stone tablets would suddenly erase themselves.

Somebody even started a rumor that all the wheels would be infected with some sort of plague and stop turning! This certainly would have thrown a monkey wrench into our commutes. Plus, we wouldn't have been able to grind wheat for our nine-grain breads, or operate most of our torture devices.

On the fateful New Year's Eve most of us nervously sat at home or went down the street to Finnegan's Bar (now defunct). By torchlight we watched Dick Clark count down the seconds as the Times Square mirror ball descended—and nothing bad happened! Then Guy Lombardo's grandfather played *Auld Lang Syne*, and the new millennium started.

So you see, it turned out to be no big deal. The year 1000 rolled around, and life went on as usual, except of course the Dark Ages ended soon after.

Charlemagne Barske

Longtime Sanchez Street Resident



Noe Valley families making "buys" in Dolores Park, where French Roast is now selling for \$35 per pound. "The worst thing is, who's going to take care of all the 'beanie babies' born to these mothers?"

He said those caught would have their mugs taken, and be booked and treated at a clinic run by reformed coffee pusher Dr. Joe Sumatra. Sumatra's center focuses on a five-step program: surrender, regret, denial, bitterness, and hot water with lemon.

Still, the ban on coffee has left many Noe Valley residents on edge. Mrs. Olsen of Elizabeth Street told the paper, "When coffee is outlawed, only outlaws will have buzzes." She and other members of Perk Up will hold a rally at Java 'n' Frogs 'n' Stuff this Saturday (if they're not too sleepy). The Hills Brothers will speak at the event, which organizers estimate will be "grande."

"We have grounds for our ire," said Mrs. Olsen. "If we can't have our daily grind, then we'll just have to start roasting politicians." □

## Biological Clock Goes Cuckoo

During a recent test of the neighborhood's Y2K readiness, the Noe Emergency Response Department (NERD) accidentally discovered that the U.S. Biological Clock, located conveniently at Sanchez and 26th Street, has stopped ticking, possibly due to negligence on the part of neighborhood residents.

"I honestly forgot about it," said a red-faced Bob Conure, a member of the Jersey Street Watch Group, which was responsible for winding the clock for the month of March.

Once NERD scientists happened on the error, they theorized that it might cause the millennium to come sooner rather than later, or the population to explode exponentially, or a large elephant to come destroy the human race. "Anyway, we fixed it," said Lotta Crabtree, a pioneer member of the group. □



Hundreds of babies and guppies have been born on Sanchez Street since the U.S. Biological Clock stopped suddenly at 1:47 a.m. on March 27. Photo "Snooze Alarm" Kennard



Photo courtesy of Bill Waight

## GROSS ADS

**Wanted:** Large garage, tower, and generators suitable for refinery. Near firehouse preferred. Need to relocate immediately. Call Tosco, (510) 555-BOOM.

**Noe Valley Doomsday Cult Forming.** Can you use a compass, draw blood, or play the spoons? We need you to help usher out the old millenium. Nerve gas provided. Y2 worry? Call (415) Y2Y-2Y2K.

**Egg Donors.** Grade AA or above. Expiration after April 1, please. Call the Easter Bunny, 555-HOPS.

**Druids for Hire.** Hauling—heavy stones our specialty. Peat bog dredging. Seasonal work preferred (solstice, equinox). \$20/hour; soothsaying extra. Call Steve, 239-1114.

**Movie Theater in Noe Valley Wanted.** Willing to trade nail salon, dry cleaners, video store, writing groups. Call Butterfield 8.

**Upper Noe Hamburgers Monthly Meeting and potluck.** Bring a vegetarian side dish and your own catsup. 6-8 p.m. Sloppy Joe's.

**Ball of Super String.** Nearly new (9 or 10 dimensions; fits Feinstein's Theory of Relativity). Best offer. Serious collectors only. Beechwood 4-5789.

**Ethnic Cleansing Housecleaning.** S. Milosevic. 555-6666.

**Linda Tripp School of Dance.** Two left feet? Two right feet? A variety of unmatched feet? Learn by phone. Call for Noe Valley phone number.

**Book Signing at the Ms. Tree Bookstore:** Meet Ayatollah Tommiano, signing his bestselling *Memiors of a Gay Shah*; plus, see the new *Betty's Curry Cookbook*; *Pigeon Soup for the Soul* by Charles Squab; *I Am Too a Planet* by Pluto. 2001 24th St.

**Discreet Plant Massage:** I'll come to your home and massage your green companions while you're away. (No thistles, please.) The Healing Thumb. Call Fern now.

**Still Watching MSNBC?** I can help you stop. I offer nonpartisan treatment for Post-Impeachment Stress Disorder (PISD) and other civil disorders. Registered intern supervised by House Manager Henry Hyde and Dr. Jekyll. Lucianne Goldberg, MFCC No. 5.

**Grand Opening:** Little Brussels Sprouts screens movies for infants and toddlers 0 to 2, including *A Buggy's Life*, *The Crying Game*, and *Shakespeare in Wuv*. Showtime 10 & 11 a.m.

**Sneezing Yoga Meditation.** Workshops for extremely shallow breathers include gentle poses "The Sinus," "The Mite," and "The Dustpan." Bring an empty stomach, yours or someone else's. Don't bring a rug.

**Hyper Critical Mass** performed by a parental figure saying "What's with the hair? You're not wearing that, are you? Stand up straight! Take your feet off the furniture! Shave your legs!

### WorldWraps

Foreskin Reattachment Parlor

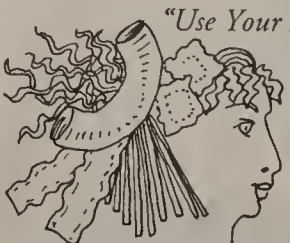
If you can find it, we'll reattach it!

"I'm not just the WorldWraps spokesman, I'm a WorldWraps client."

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"Use Your Noodle!"

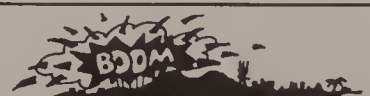
Pasta Pompadours  
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## JUST FOR SPITE

Gifts for That 'Special' Someone

- Voodoo Dolls • Alar Apples •
- Condoms Made in the Former Soviet Union •
- Outdated Jars of Mayonnaise •
- Unwrapped Halloween Candy ("Take a chance!") •
- Swollen Cans of Vienna Sausage •
- Medical Waste Grab Bags •
- Fruitcake • Anthrax •
- Bags o' Glass • Bags o' Vipers •

Tuggey's  
NAILS



THE NOE VANITY VOICE

Editors 1899-1999

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